ol. XXI MARCH 1931 No. 6

HE JAPAN MAGAZINE

Established 1910

A Representative Monthly of Things Japanese

PUBLISHED BY THE JAPAN MAGAZINE Co., TOKYO, JAPAN

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

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Subscriptions:

In the Japanese Empire, (postpaid) per year in advance - *Yen* 7.50
In Foreign Countries, (postpaid) per year in advance - - $ 4.00
Single Copy- - - - - - - - - - - 70 sen (35 cents)

Foreign subscriptions should be remitted by P.O. or express money order, to The Japan Magazine Co., 6 Itchome Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo.

Agents:

Maruzen Company, Tokyo
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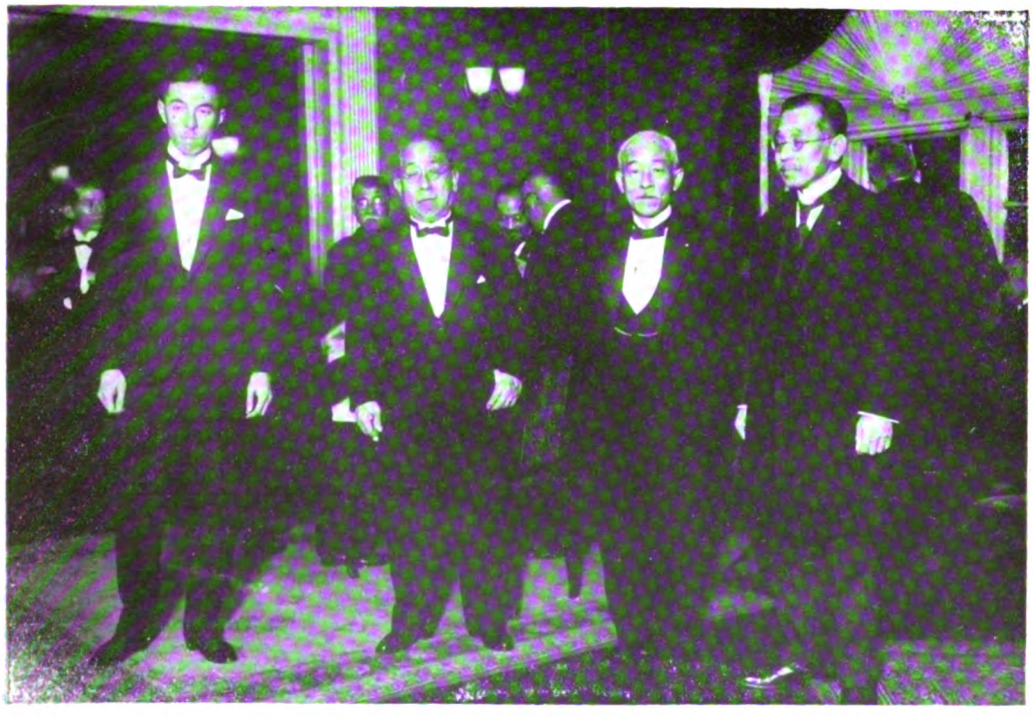
Premier Hamaguchi leaving the Tokyo Imperial University Hospital on January 21st after being there for sixty-nine days.



A party held at Tokyo Kaikwan on January 29th in honour of Prince Tokugawa, President of the House of Peers, who recently came back from a tour in Europe and of Marquis Hachisuka and Marquis Konoye, who left and took up the Vice-Presidency of the same House respectively. (From the right to the left) Marquis Hachisuka, Baron Sakatani, Prince Tokugawa and Marquis Konoye.

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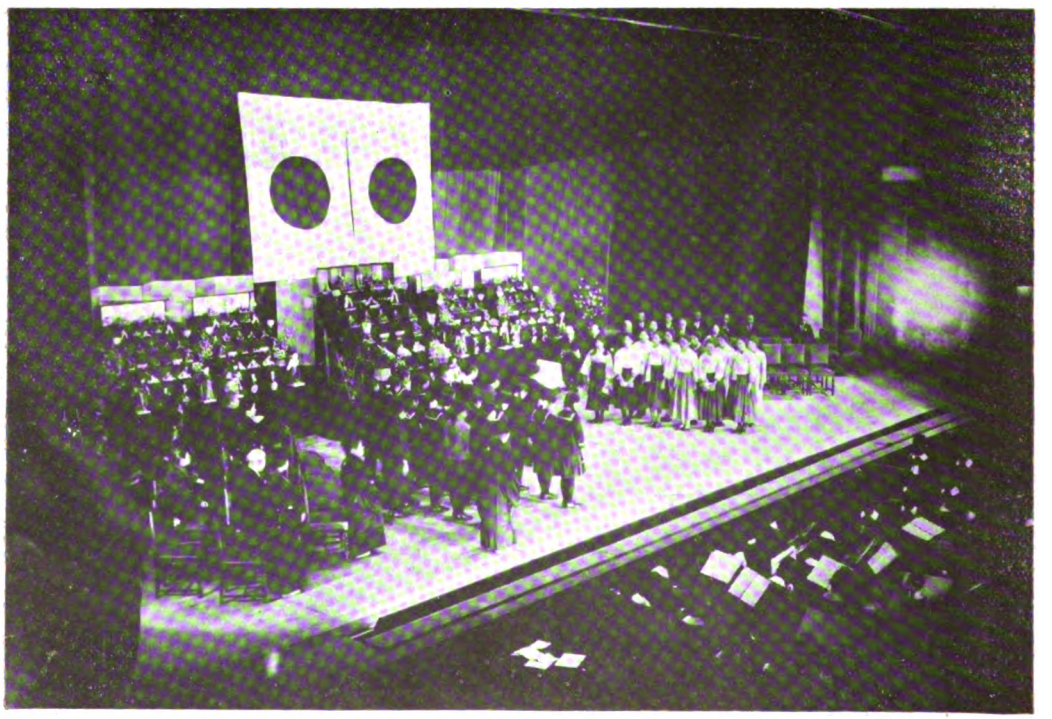
New Formosan Governor-Genera', Mr. Ohta, leaving Tokyo Station for Formosa on January 30th, accompanied by his wife and daughter.



A gathering of Japanese and Korean women at Hibiya Park to bring about better relations between them through the agency of *hina*, Japanese dolls, which were presented to the Koreans by their Japanese sisters.

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A grand meeting of kite-fliers at Hibiya Park.

Two boys playing with a sword in the snow.

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Baron Shidehara, the acting Premier, proceeding to the Imperial villa at Hayama to be taken in audience by H. I. M. the Emperor there.

Douglas Fairbanks again visiting Japan. The one in Japanese kimono is Sojin Kamiyama and the next to him is Denmei Suzuki.

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Vol. XXI MARCH 1931 No. 6

WORLD'S ECONONIC OUTLOOK IN 1931

By M. OUCHI

THE year 1930 ended as a year of world panics. In the autumn of 1929 the American stock exchange was overtaken ba a panic, following which panics occurred in the chief industrial countries in the world one after another as time went on. Then the world's principal agricultural countries were involved more severely than before France, which was prosperous, standing aloof from world depression, until the year half passed; but later, it was attacked by a panicky wave too, The world's panic has greatly extended during the past year, and remains as severe as before. The countries still not visited by it and enjoy trade activity, are Denmark, Norway and Ireland, which are all small countries. This was because of fodder having depreciated more than their export of dairy products.

The panic was followed by a fall in commodity prices. The severity of a panic and a fall in commodity prices have an internal-relation between each other. Fundamentally, the panic is the powerful solution of a contradicition between productive and consumptive capacity and a fall in commodity prices is a preparation for a new equilibrium, on the solution of the contradiction. The more contradiction there is between capacity of production and that of consumption, the severer will be the all in commodity prices. So long as commodity prices are falling, however, the panic will grow in severity. Until the normal balance between supply and demand is restored, the downward course of commodity prices ceases and capital begins to be put up for extending production or improving equipment for production, a trade revival is not to be hoped for.

The following table shows movements of commodity prices during 1930 in index numbers, taking the price in 1928 as 100 :—

Country.	Oct., 1929.	Aug., 1930.	Sept., 1930.	Oct., 193.0
Germany	98.0	89.1	87.3	84.7
England	97.0	84.0	82.3	79.8

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France	95.0	85.8	84.9	82.4
America	98.7	86.1	86.1	84.9
Japan.....	96.6	77.1	74.8	64.2

As may be noted from the above figures, the average index numbar of commodity prices during one year from October lst, 1929, to October 1st, 1930, declined 13.3 points in Germany, 17.2 points in England, 12.6 points in France, 13.8 points in America and 32.3 points in Japan.

A panic does not of course reflect its severity by simply a heavy fall in commodity prices. The object of this article is, however, simply to observe the condition of foreign trade and production, indicating the condition of circulation of commodities and the unemployment conditions reflecting the national purchasing-capacity.

In international trade an unequally great decrease in the export trade in countries other than Europe must be first pointed out. For the first half of 1930 the exports from these countries fell off 5,700,000,000 marks, or 20 per cent from the same period, 1929. Their imports decreased, but not to the extent of the exports. These countries include not a few agricultural countries, which export agricultural products and import industrial finished goods; and the depreciation of agricultural products, prices of which cannot be stabilized dy monopolization, is greater in extent and tempo than industrial products, which is the reason that the exports from these countries decreased more than their imports. In European countries, the foreign trade began to decline somewhat later than in other countries, and it became maaked in the second quarter period of 1930. For the first half, 1930 the imports decreased 4,300,000,000 marks, or 10.7 per cent. and the exports 2,700,000,000 marks, or 8.6 per cent. The exports decreased less than the imports for the reason that the chief part of the former was taken by industrial finished goods with a comparatively small degree of decline in price. The following table exhibits the foreign trade of the chief iudustrial and agricultural countries for the first half, 1930:—

(In Millions of Marke)

	Imports			Exports		
	2nd Quarter, 1929.	1st Quarter, 1930.	2nd Quarter, 1930.	2nd Quarter, 1929.	1st Quarter, 1930.	2nd Quarter, 1930.
Germany	3,465	3,170	2,532	3,476	3,222	2,983
England	5,481	5,277	4,758	3,624	3,344	2,866
France	2,526	2,301	2,109	2,093	1,919	1,803
America	4,751	3,790	3,490	4,977	4,651	3,389
Canada	1,373	1,136	1,099	1,181	938	865
India	958	941	769	1,210	1,192	996
Argentine	835	655	626	1,031	701	579

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Regarding unemployment, there was already a standing army of the unemployed even in 1927 and 1928, when rationalized business prosperity was manifest. In 1930 groups of the panic unemployment were added to it, and the total number was almost twice as much as in 1929. Even after that, the number increased monthly, partly with seasonable unemployment. In Germany, unemployment was given as 3,700,000, and in England the number amounted to 2,230,000. In America, although exact returns are unavilable, the latest estimate was 8,000,000. The unemployment in these three countries alone exceeded even 13,000,000 or 14,000,000 at the beginning of 1922,—a number unprecedentedly great. The total number of the unemployed in the world, which amounted to 17,000,000, in the first half, 1930, reached over 20,000,000 in the second half. In the winter, the number was thought to be nearly 30,000,000. Compulsory unemployment insurance,—the only system to relieve unemployment in modern society,—has been exhausted of funds with so huge number of the unemployed. The tendency is growing more and more pronounced of the unemployment question, making it practically a political problem.

Why has it been necessary for the world's panic to be so extensive so serious and so prolonged? It is the greatest panic since the rise of capitalism, and it has shaken even capitalism itself.

In restoring the productive capacitiy and the economic power, destroyed by the war, industrial rationalization was put in force. It is also well known that industrial rationalization greatly quickened up the centralization of capital and speeded up monopolistic organizations. The fact has been often overlooked, however, that this rationalization in substance intensified the squeezing of labour. In industrial rationalization has it made a chief policy to increase labour efficiency, to reduce wages and to dismiss workmen en masse. The productive capacity increased remarkably, but that was developed at the sacrifice of domestic markets, and the importance of foreign markets increased with the progress of the rationalization course. In the interior, the cartel prices ruled, and against foreign dumping a protective fariff wall was established. The power's efforts to maintain the cartel prices, however, did no good but only narrowed up foreign markets by insuring the security of the domestic market. The productive capacity went far above the pre-war water level, about 1928. But the market was narrowed up on the contrary. A heavy pressure of excessive production in industry began to be felt keenly. Excessive production must be taken as a fundamental cause for the present panic.

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In agriculture, extension in the area of plantation in the war, and the consequent growth of agricultural productive capacity caused an agricultural panic along with the general panic of 1921. This panic seemed to have been conqured for a time at least by the agricultural rationalization, as was the case in industry. Agricultural management was greatly mechanized, and especially, the use of a harvester, tractors, etc. expanded the area of plantation. At the same time it decided the transfer of the centre of agricultural production from old agricultural countries to colonies or semicolonies,—a movement started in the war; while it made capitalistic single cultivation in these places a system ruling other methods. The exportation of capital served to help in the creation of the tendency. The development in cultivation and in harvesting machines made for an increase in the production per unit of plantations, and made, in co-operation with the progress of agricultural chemistry, and especially, that of composite manure, and an improvement in the kinds of products and the irrigation and drainage, agricultural management more intensive. These things multiplied the world's agricultural production. At the same time, they made agricultural products most sensitive to changes in general trade conditions, and caused the farmers' poverty on account of the price of land and the land rent rising.

While rationalization was progressing in industry more or less, rationalization prosperity made its appearance. This prosperity reacted on agriculture, in which the pressure of excessive production at once abated in consequence. But as soon as this prosperity began to wane, the heavy pressure of agricultural overproduction came into operation, causing price to run down precipitately, which could not be resisted by anything.

The fact that industrial overproduction and agricultural overproduction combined to bring about the existing world's panic, must be properly valued. This fact makes it possible to measure the depth and extent of the world's panic. At the same time it suggests the terrific future of the panic. Nowhere in the world and in whatever department of industry can we find a way to escape from panic. We would have to wait for a pretty long time before this "natural power," made by modern society, subsides of itself.

What must be noted in particular is that the capitalism of to-day is exclusive capitalism. The exclusiveness, which was strengthened by the rationalization, attempts arresting the downward tendency of the prices by carrying on a curtailment for a long period in order to maintain the cartel prices of industrial products, despite their overproduction. This is an action, which makes the panic particularly distressing to the

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mass, which forms the chief part of the general consumers, and leads them to want and poverty.

The cartel and its activities, according to past experience, had been liable to break down and fall through in time of business depression, when such organization is most important, but this time the panic strengthened the organization. The reason may be found in the controlling of the cartels by the bankers. Previously they withdrew from industrial capital at the time of a panic, and came again to control the latter when the panic was over. But this time the controlling of the industrial capital by the bankers has been extended, while the panic was in progress. This fact tells of the intimate connection between the two kinds of capital. The bankers cannot get through the panic by any means but that they are connected more intimately with the industrial capital under their own hegemony.

Mrs. Clara Butt, the world-famous English vocalist, with her husband, Mr. R. T. Rumford, arriving at Tokyo Station on Jan. 27th.

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FUTURE OF BUDDHISM

By Y. IMAMURA

THE conference held last summer under the auspices of the Young Men's Buddhist Association in Hawaii drew attention to the reawakening of that religion to the need of missionary enterprise, if the Buddhist faith is to spread. The Conference was in itself a great event in the annals of Buddhism, simply because of its international character. It is less than half a century since the Young Men's Buddhist Association was organized; its growth has been phenomenal. It was established to promote the reorganization of Buddhist methods for the teaching of the faith, for spiritual revival, physical improvement, social recreation, intellectual co-öperation and universal good-will. Buddhism had come to be too much regarded as a religion for the aged; it had to be taught as the religion for youth as well. These objects were kept directly before the mind of the delegates to the Conference.

The Buddhist spirit of peaceful penetration, without resort to aggressive means of propaganda was regarded by the Conference as specially appropriate to the modern mind which tends more and more toward interbationalism. The spirit of racial domination and national aggression is necoming ever more unpopular, and has to give way to solicitude for universal coöperation. Politicians, financiers and even officers of the Army and Navy are now becoming shy of appearing as representatives of egotistic national principles, and are even joining with others in conferences for the promotion of world peace. A new era is thus at hand, in which Buddhism must find opportune ways of promoting its principles.

Hawaii is itself a good example of how the races of the world can meet and mingle in harmony and prosperity if they are but given the chance by their leaders. In that Island almost every race on earth is represented; but the most striking instance of all is the peaceful mixing of East and West: Japanese and Chinese, on the one hand, mixing perfectly with Americans composed of all the races of Europe. Thus Hawaii is becoming an exemplary nucleus of what the world will be some day, if the principles of peace and brotherhood are faithfully inculcated and lived by the nations. It is not surprising that the young Buddhist leaders should consider Hawaii a fitting place to launch their campaign for teaching the faith which they regard as always standing for human brotherhood. They took it as symbol of the attitude of Buddhism

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toward the rest of the world.

One of the main themes for discussion was the future of Buddhism throughout the world. Buddhism was started by Gautama more than 2,500 years ago, and, as he himself predicted, spread mainly Eastward. After five hnndred years the faith had spread beyond the boundaries of India, and in a thousand years became well known over all Asia. Reaching Japan in the sixth century, A. D. the faith gradually took hold, and greatly influenced the civilization of the country, introducing art, letters and culture generally. Though divided into various sects with time, the religion became established in Japan, and remained the chief religion down to the end of the nineteenth century. As soon as Japan was opened to the western world, Buddhism began to spread across the Pacific and missions were established in America. It is too early to prophecy what the future of the new faith will be in America. No doubt it will be strongly imbued with the American spirit, just as in Japan it is imbued with the Japanese spirit, and in India with the Indian spirit. For this reason Buddhism in Japan, China and India can always be easily distinguished, because its spiritual influence becomes assimilated with the spirit of the nation and modifies it. Thus in India Buddhism is meditative, in China dialectic, in Japan pragmatic: it is too soon to define its effect in America. That will be easier when Americanism itself can be defined.

From the above facts it is interesting to observe the definite contribution that each nation has made to the Buddhist faith after the religion had time to assimilate with the civilization. Take India, for instance. Among the most sublime scenes in that country are the Himalayas and the river Ganges. Rising gradually from the lowest levels, through every kind of vegetation and climate, the matchless range towers at last above the region of eternal snow. In its bosom are treasured all sorts of valuable minerals; on its surface all kinds of valuable growths. It is a gigantic museum of treasures in Nature's most beautiful setting. As the eye daily lifts up its vision toward that stupenduous scene the mind is filled with wonder and insatiable curiosity. The Ganges has is source in the everlasting heights and snows, melted by the first touch of spring, trickling down to refresh the lower regions of the world with life and shade. Overleaping every obstacle the stream moves on, gathering tributaries by the way, conquering all hardships and challenging all adventures, moving on by irresistable impulse till it blends with the immeasurable ocean. The great river brings with it the spirit of its high source right up to the great temples at Benares. The whole process is a pic-

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ture of the saint's pilgrimage; it plunges the mind into that deep meditation characteristic of the Indian Buddhist. Man slides down from the eternal heights to join the limitless ocean and be taken back again in the wheeling circle of existence. This unceasing and certain movement of vast waters is the symbol of an all-embracing unity. The Indians from of old time could not but thus meditate heavenward, earthward and oceanward; and so they produced *sutras* charged with every aspect and tone of profound thought. No wonder it became customary for Buddhists to say that there are eighty-four thousand ways in their teachings.

It is natural that the sacred books of ancient India should be jungle books of religious meditation, lofty, profound and immensely various. In their labyrinths of thought the mind, if not the soul, is liable to get lost. There is great need of a straightening-out process, a rearrangement, until the so-called "Eighty-four Thousand" tenets are organized into a system and made capable of proper intellectual appreciation. This need was soon felt by the Chinese, with their fondness for dialectic, and the task of systematization of Indian Buddhist meditative literature was undertaken by the Buddhists of China. Devoid of the Indian love of natural wonder, and lacking in love of profound thought, and even any great fertility of imagination, but much given to indefatigable toil, the Chinese were content to sit long years sifting out and finding the grain in the vast heaps of Indian Buddhist meditations, and arranging their results in a logical whole. The outcome of this laborious process of critical discrimination was the *Hangyo Bukkyo*, in which thousands of *sutras* were systematized and coördinated until the chief doctrines of the faith became clear. The most distinguished scholars in this marvellous task were Kenshi of the Kegon sect, and Chiei of the Tendai sect, who inspire perpetual admiration. These are the sky-scrapers of Buddhist scholarship and philosophy, beside whom Greek and German philosophers look like hovels.

This capacity for synthesis and systematization, which Buddhism taught to Ancient China, is just what that country needs most to-day. It was this genius for organization and control that saved China in the old days. With continental expanse of territory teeming with a vast population of mixed tribes, all tending to develop sectional interests, and internecine strife, centralization would not have been possible without this organizing mind imparted by Buddhism. Without it the result at present is chaos. Old China was able to bring conflicting interests into some show of order under even various dynasties; the best advisers and or-

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ganizers were the Buddhist scholars and philosophers. The organization of China under the Han and the Tang dynasties was greater in magnitude and more intricate in composition than was the Roman empire in its palmiest days. While these empire-builders were erecting those elaborate political fabrics, Buddhist scholars were devoting themselves to constructing doctrinal systems of Buddhist thought of a similar order.

But it is one thing to have a mind and another thing to apply it in a practical way; and so in time government in China began to come under Confucianism and Buddhism was left to deal with religious problems only. This secularization of government is the cause of China's troubles. Buddhism became an intellectual plaything of the Chinese instead a guiding principle of life; and government followed Confucian principles only. The result is obvious to-day. Religion is not a pleasing dream: it is something to live by. And herein lies the difference between Japan and China; for, while in China Buddhism became a theory of life which was not lived by the people, owing to the opposition of Confucianism, in Japan Buddhism became a real part of the nation's life, all its doctrines being put to the acid test of practical experience. There was a time, of course, especially during the Heian period, when the scholastic dogmas and elaborate dialectics of Chinese Buddhism were imported to Japan, but the samurai were radical empiricists, if not inveterate iconoclasts, ignoring sacerdotal authority and ritualism, and soon forced religion to prove itself in practical experience. Through this influence Japanese Buddhism came to realize that religious life is neither meditation nor learning alone, but a realization of man's higher self and better existence. The main aim is to find out how to realize Buddhahood in one's own life. Consequently Japanese Buddhism concentrated on these two essentials: how to realize Buddhahood and the great Enlightenment.

The samurai priests of Japanese Buddhism coöperated with the local faith of Shinto in the promotion of national culture. Education, art, literature, all kinds of social and charity work, came under their direction and control. During the Tokugawa regime the priesthood was privileged, enjoying various immunities and State patronage. The ease and luxury thus encouraged induced some deterioration in the rank and file of the priesthood, but after the Imperial Restoration a great reformation was brought about in religion.

As to the effect of Buddhism in the United States, it may be said that so vast a continent has peculiar features that are bound to have some influence on Buddhism. America is a colossus with her head in the Arctic and her

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feet down in the torrid zone; so what will be the effect of cold head and hot feet? Compared with the marvellous diversity of entrancing natural scenery in India, America is flat topographically, but the virgin soil has within it inexhaustible treasures richer than all the rest of the world. It is said that the natural resources are sufficient to sustain a billion in population. Above all, America is the land of opportunity. It is a museum of ethnology, as India is a museum of natural history. Containing all races and types within its bounds, America promises to become an excellent hotbed to foster a development of diversified ideas and ideals. It is thus a human experiment on an unprecedented scale. The synthesis and coördination of this vast population of mixed races will require some meditation and resolution, in which Buddhism can offer much help. America has already had one great civil war to preserve the union in tact. If this was possible between people of the same race, what are the possibilities when the nation has become a congeries of all races? China's preference of Confucianism to Buddhism is no argument against Buddhism, since the result is confusion worse confounded. The aid from Buddhism, which China has neglected, America may have, to ensure the coördination of all her disintegrating forces into a united nation. As Buddhism has united the conflicting races that compose Japan, and fused them into a great nation, so also it can unite America, believing in the philosophy of selfrealization, preferring personal enlightenment and refinement to mere material achievement.

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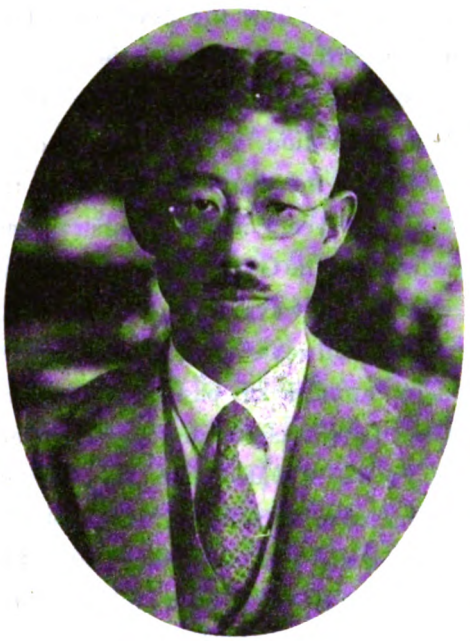
ELECTRIC RAILWAY SERVICES IN TOKYO SUBURBS

THEIR PRESENT AND FUTURE

By K. YOSHIDA

(Director of the Tokyo Railway Bureau)



Mr. K. Yoshida
Director of the Tokyo Railway Bureau

1. *The population of Tokyo and its relation to the Tokyo suburban electric railways.*—Generally, the electric railways in the suburbs of Tokyo run in a radius from it. They may be looked upon as extending more and more outside the Metropolis, running through the suburban residential sections and serving the residents there going to office or school in Tokyo.

Before dealing with the present condition of these electric railways and their future extension, therefore, it is important for me to briefly look into the population of Tokyo and the increased tendency to suburban residence.

The population of Tokyo amounted to 2,140,000 in 1907, making an epoch with the completion of the means of traffic in the city. But in 1909 the number decreased greatly to 1,620,000, which must be considered as a result of the opening of the present Yamanote Circular Line on the I. G. rapid transit electric railway system, which induced a great number of citizens to remove to districts along it. Subsequently, the population in Tokyo again showed an increasing tendency, and reached 2,470,000 in 1922. Soon afterwards, in September, 1923, the severe earthquake occurred, causing the population to fall off to 1,520,000. Later, the number racovered yearly, and statistics for 1929 show a population of 2,370,000. The above mentioned sudden decrease in the population of Tokyo, consequent upon the catastorophe, was mainly owing to the temporary removal of sufferers to the provinces. At the same

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time, it is an undeniable fact that the event offered an occasion of suburban development, and created an opportunity for an extension of the suburban electric railway services. To see how the population of the Tokyo suburbs, which means six districts and eighty-four villages to be made part of Greater Tokyo in the future, under the City Planning Law, increased in the meantime, the number was 1,430,000 in 1922, but it rose to 1,710,000 in 1923, or soon after the earthquake, and to 1,980,000 in 1924, after which the increase was more pronounced yearly until the number stood at 2,820,000 in 1929. All these figures denote that in the period of seven years, commencing 1922, the population of Tokyo decreased about 100,000, while, on the other hand, the population of its suburban districts was nearly doubled. The chief reason for such a marked expansion of the suburban population in such a short period may be sought in the fact that taking the opportunity of the earthquake, the citizens, inclined to reside outside the city as a result of the enhancement of the knowledge of health and canitation or in consideration of economic interests such as land and house rents, etc.; chose to remove to suburban districts. In this connection one thing that cannot be over-looked is the remarkable growth of the suburban electric railways. In 1919 they had 400 kilometre total working lines, and three years afterwards, or in 1923 their extensions were only 50 kilometres.

Six years afterwards, in 1928, the total length of the working lines reached 800 kilometres. This may be said to tell eloquently how the expansion of the suburban population accelerated the development of the suburban electric railways and how the development of the suburban electric railways lent impetus to the expansion of the suburban population. This may also be seen from the marked increase in the past few years in the number of passengers on the Government rapid transit electric railways and the suburban electric railways. In 1922 the average daily number of passengers on the Government rapid transit electric railways was 430,000, and the number increased to 630,000 in 1924, to 960,000 in 1928 and to 1,070,000 in 1929. On the suburban electric railways the average daily number of passengers was 270,000 in 1922, and in 1924, or one year after the earthquake, they rose to 410,000 and in 1928 to 680,000.

The above remarks may be enough to convince the reader that the Tokyo suburban electric railways, taking advantage of the earthquake, attained remarkable development these several years. Yet the development was much behind that in the suburbs of Kyoto and Osaka. Why? That is a great question. About this subject, I will tell you in a subsequent chapter

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dealing with the management of the suburban electric railways.

2. *The distribution of the Tokyo suburban electric railways.*—In the foregoing chapter I said that the electric railways in the suburbs of Tokyo run in a radius from it. This was, of course, a general statement. There are cities, large and small, in the vicinity of Tokyo. Yokohama comes first of them with the population of 530,000, being followed by Kawasaki with the population of 78,000, Kawagoye with 36,000, Hachioji with 50,000 and Chiba with 40,000. There are electric railway lines connecting these cities with Tokyo. But few are comparable with the interurbun railways in Osaka and its neighbouring cities, except the Keihin Electric Railway and the Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railway, which connect Tokyo with Yokohama in a way somewhat comparable with the Osaka suburban railways.

Let me give an outline of the distribution of the Tokyo suburban electric railways, classifying them, for the sake of convenience, into (a) the electric railways between Tokyo and Yokohama, (b) the electric railways in the south-western suburbs of Tokyo, (c) the electric railways in the north-western suburbs of Tokyo, (d) the electric railways in the north-eastern suburbs of Tokyo and (e) the electric railways in the borders of Tokyo.

(a) The electric railways between Tokyo and Yokohama.—These are the Keihin Electric Railways (for 28.76 centimetres) connecting Tokyo with Yokohama and running through Omori-machi, Kawasaki City, and Tsurumi-ku (Yokohama), and the Tsurumi Harbour Railway (for 9.49 centimetres) running between Tsurumi and Kawasaki Daishi along the seacoast industrial district. The Shonan Electric Railway, which is opened to traffic between Yokohama and Uraga-machi, is to establish a connection with the Keihin Electric Railway at Yokohama Station on the Government Keihin (Tokyo-Yokohama) Line and to run as far as Misaki-machi in the Miura Peninsula in future. As another line serving as a connecting link between Tokyo and Yokohama must be mentioned the Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railways (for 24.94 kilometres) starting at Shibuya Station on another Government line in the western extremity of Tokyo.

(b) The electric railways in the south-western suburbs of Tokyo.—The shortest way for any Tokyo suburban electric railway to carry passengers to the business centre of Tokyo is, in the existing condition of traffic, to connect itself with the Yamate Circular Line of the Government rapid transit electric railways. There is, therefore, a tendency among the suburban electric railways to form a junction with a station on the line. One of them

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is the Ikegami Electric Kailway (for 12.43 kilometres) running between Gotanda Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line and Kamata Station on the Government Keihin Line. The Meguro-Kamata Electric Railway (for 18.09 kilometres) serving to connect the above Kamata Station with Meguro Station on the above Yamate Circular Line, constitutes an outer line of the Ikegami railway, and traverses a district, which is most densely populated in the south-western part of the suburbs of Tokyo. The same railway possesses a branch line running between Dényen-Chofu Station on the main line and Oi-machi Station on the Government Keihin Line. The Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railway, a sister company of the Meguro-Kamata Railway, starts as aforementioned at Shibuya Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line, and ends at Yokohama, running southward and joining on the way the Meguro-Kamata Electric Railway. The Tamagawa Electric Railway (for 22.91 kilometres) operates out of Tokyo for the Tama River (an interesting place visited by the citizens) through Shibuya Station, and joins the Nanbu Railway at Musashi-Mizuno-kuchi on the river. Besides, there are the Odawara Repid Transit Railway (for 87.20 kilometres), run between Shinjuku Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line, which is a gate to the newly developed western centre of Tokyo, and the Hakone, Enoshima and Kamakura pleasure resorts through the residential section in the western suburb of Tokyo, the Keio Electric Railway (for 39.43 kilometres), linking Hachioji to Tokyo. and the Seibu Railway (for 19.95 kilometres) running from Shinjuku Station to Ogikubo.

These are the suburban electric railways radiating from Tokyo to its south-western part, situated between the Government Keihin and Central Lines, which are most thickly populated.

(c) The electric railways in the north-western suburbs of Tokyo.—The Murayama Line of the Seibu Railway (for 70.80 kilometres) connects with Takata-no-baba Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line. It runs through the residential section in the north-western part of the Tokyo suburbs and ends at the Murayama Reservoir, a source of water supply of Tokyo and an interesting place visited by the citizens.

The Musashi-no Railway (for 63.70 kilometres) runs nearly parallel with the above Murayama Line, taking the form of its rival line. It forms junction with the Government Yamate Circular Line at Ikebukuro Station.

This railway goes to the Murayama Reservoir and also to Hanno, through Tokorozawa. The Tojo Line of the Tobu Railway connects also with the Government line at Ikebukuro Station. It runs as long as to the Chichibu Rail-

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way, through Kawagoye. The Oji Electric Railway (for 16.18 kilometres) is interested in traffic in the north-western suburban part of Tokyo, running in the form of three-forked lines to Minami-Senju, Akabane and Takata-no-baba, centering in Asukayama Park, a most noted place for cherry blossoms in the north of Tokyo. The above are the electric railways that run in the north-western suburban part of Tokyo.

(d) The electric railways in the north-eastern suburbs of Tokyo.—The north-eastern suburbs of Tokyo are mostly an industrial section, situated across the Sumida River. One of the electric railways running in the district is the Joto Electric Railway (for 11.16 kilometres) starting at Kinshibori Stop on the Tokyo Municipal Tramway and ending at Yedo River, which forms the natural boundary-line between Tokyo Prefecture and Chiba Prefecture, through Suna-mura, the industrial section. Another is the Keisei Electric Railway, which is opened between Oshiage on the eastern outskirt of Tokyo and Chica City and Narita-machi for a distance of 74.41 kilometres, through such residential sections as Ichikawa-machi and Funabashi-machi lying in the suburbs of Tokyo. Still another is the Tobu Railway (for 292.-20 kilometres), which starts at Asakusa Station in Honjo-ku, Tokyo and goes a long way off to the Ryomo weaving centres and Nikko, through Kita-Senju Station on the Government Joban Line. The Keisei and Tobu Railways have between them and Tokyo the Sumida River, which runs in the north-eastern part of Tokyo. They seem to have been feeling a great deal of inconvenience in stretching to the business centre of Tokyo, while they have often made painstaking exports for the purpose. The Tobu Railway is likely soon to cross over the Sumida River and establish a connection with Asakusa Station on the Tokyo Underground Railway.

(e) The electric railways on the borders of Tokyo.—This is a classification made simply for the sake of convenience, and does not mean the second and third circular lines against the Government Yamate Circular Line, if this line may be called the first circular line. These electric railways may be looked upon partly as local means of traffic connecting small cities lying on the outskirts of Tokyo with each other, and may be more properly regarded as transporters of merchandise. One of them is the Nanbu Railway (for 45.80 kilometres) serving to connect the City of Kawasaki on the Government Keihin Line and Tachikawa Station on the Government Central Line. Another is the Ome Railway (for 30.70 kilometres) running from the same Tachikawa Station to Mitake. Still another is the Itsukaichi Railway (for 13.90 kilometres) reaching Musashi-Itsukaichi

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through Haijima. The Seibu Railway's Kawagoye Line runs from Kokubunji Station on the Government Central Line to the City of Kawagoye through Tokorozawa, whence it extends over to Omiya-machi. There is the Sobu Railway (for 62.90 kilometres) which has its starting-point in Omiya-machi, and by way of Noda-machi, a famous place of production of Japanese soy, reaches Kashiwa Station on the Government Joban Line, and then joins the Government Sobu Line at Funabashi Station.

3. *The management of electric railways in the suburbs of Tokyo and their future.*—When the management of the electric railways is carefully looked into, each will be found to have characteristic features, but it is not the object of this article to give them in detail. Some additionally carry on the auto-bus business. Some do the electric lighting business in addition, and others not. Some utilize natural pleasure resorts for attracting the passengers, while others manage artificial recreatino grounds. Some have stadiums or golf-links, and others possess and manage residential estates. Generally speaking, however, there seem to be not a few things that under the management of these Tokyo suburban electric railways are not so easy and successful.

The enumeration of these things will naturally explain why the electric railways in the suburbs of Tokyo have not made equally great development as those in the suburbs of Osaka or Kyoto,—a matter left as a question at the beginning of this article. The reasons are, first, that while in Kwansai (Western Japan with Osaka and Kyoto in the centre) there are no rapid transit electric railways run under the direct control of the I. G. R., there are in Tokyo such Government rapid transit electric railway lines as the Yamate Circular Line, the Central Line, the Keihin Line, the Tohoku Line and the Yokosuka Line, all of which concentrate in the business centre of the city, and adopt a low fare system by issuing season-tickets for salarymen and students for the purpose of developing the suburban districts. It must be most painful for the suburban electric railways to compete with these Government lines in the time and fare to the Municipal business centre. This may be said to be a prime reason for the slow development of the suburban electric railways. The second reason is that unlike the Kwansai suburban electric railways connecting one great city with another, the Tokyo suburban electric railways have found that the more their lines proceed the more the population becomes thinner, it being very densely populated only in close proximity to the capital. Here must be a hardship in management, different from the case,

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where big cities lie at both ends. The thirds reason is that there are not so many places of interest and natural beauty in the vicinity of Tokyo as in the neighbourhood of Osaka, Kyoto and other Kwansai districts. This is another great drawback the Tokyo suburban electric railways have. The fourth reason is that it has been practically very hard for the Tokyo suburban electric railways to bring their lines into the Metropolis either because of too dense a population or owing to the necessity of strictly dividing the field of operation with the Municipal tramways. This has kept these lines rather too for away from the business centre of Tokyo, forming another question of difficulty for the suburban electric railways. The fifth reason is that some difficulty has been experienced by the suburban electric railways in establishing connection with the Government rapid transit railway stations for shortening the time taken by their passengers to the business centre of the city; for it was tried, after the places to lay the connecting lines had been too much congested.

The most urgent question to be considered for the future development of the Tokyo suburban electric railways would be, therefore, to think out means for shortening the time to the business centre of the city, so as to cut the distance between the suburbs and the heart of the Metropolis. For this, the present way taken by the suburban electric railways to the business centre of the Metropolis through junction at Government rapid transit electric railway stations may be rather roundabout; and it would be necessary to build and open as soon as possible underground railways by some means or other, leading direct to the Metropolitan business centre on the shortest route. When a few underground railways of the nature are completed, the suburban electric railways should connect up with them, by which the suburbs of Tokyo will be extended more and more, drawing a very large circle around it. Another important question to be studied for the truly steady progress and development of the suburban electric railways would be to combine those of intimate relation. But I refrain from dealing with this question for the present, as there are different hindrances to the realization of it.

Then about the future of the Tokyo suburban electric railways, it is a matter of no doubt that the existing lines should have more and more people to use them, seeing, as I stated in the General Remarks of this article, that Tokyo is now rather overpopulated, and the tendency to live in the suburbs is more and more pronounced. The question is, therefore, how underground railway projects are progressing in Tokyo, bearing most closely on the question of shortening the time from

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the suburban electric railways to the heart of the Metropolis, and whether the lines projected and chartered can coexist with the old lines or can carry out their mission to foster the existing lines connected with them, contributing to the development of the suburbs.

(a) Underground railways. — At present there is only one underground railway run in Tokyo and vicinity. It belongs to the Tokyo Underground Railway Co. Ltd., and it is opened at present between Asakusa,—a place of popular amusements,—to Manseibashi, a part of the business centre of Tokyo, through Uyeno, the gate to the north-eastern district of Japan, covering a distance of 3.68 kilometres. The line is to be expended finally to Magome-machi in the south-western suburbs of Tokyo, through Kanda-ku, Nihonbashi-ku and Kyobashi-ku, the largest centres of business in the Metropolis. The Tokyo Municipality has also a plan to operate an underground railway, and it is destined to have the most important bearing upon the suburban electric railways. According to the plan, all the underground railway lines are to start at stations on the Government Yamate Circular Line and join at the business centre in Kanda-ku, Nihonbashi-ku, Kyobashi-ku and Kojimachi-ku. There are six lines projected, or (1) from Meguro Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Tokyo Station through Azabu-ku and Kojimachi-ku, and thence to Minami-Senju by way of Asakusa in the north-east of Tokyo, through Nihonbashi-ku, (2) from Shibuya Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Marunouchi, the heart of Tokyo, through Akasaka-ku, (3) from Shinjuku on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Nihonbashi-ku through Yotsuya-ku, Kojimachi-ku, and Kyobashi-ku, (4) from Ikebukuro Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Marunouchi through Ushigome-ku and Kanda-ku, and thence to Susaki in the eastern part of Tokyo through Tokyo Railway Station underground, connecting there the Yamate rapid transit electric railway, which is schemed to form another circular line on the outskirts of Tokyo, (5) from Otsuka Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Nihonbashi-ku through Koishikawa-ku and Shitaya-ku, and (6) from Sugamo Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Marunouchi through Hongo-ku and Kanda-ku. It is easy to imagine how remarkably the Tokyo suburbs and the Tokyo suburban electric railways will develop on the completetion of these six underground railway lines. It is to be eanestly hoped that the Tokyo Municipality will consummate the plan at the earliest possible date. If it is financially impossible for the Municipality to do this, one way to be taken advisably for it would be to

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put in operation the programme with funds invested by the suburban railways having the greatest interest in the enterprise.

(b) The electric railway lines projected and officially chartered, radiating for Tokyo.—The Meguro-Tamagawa electric railway (for 11.2 kilometres) starting at Meguro Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line and ending in part at Komazawa-mura on the Tamagawa Electric Railway and in the other part at the Tama River, a place of interest, outside Tokyo, running through some densely populated places in the sourth-western suburbs of Tokyo and crossing the Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railway, is expected to be pretty successful, when opened to traffic. The Shibuya Rapid Transit Electric Railway (for 14.5 kilometres) to run from Shibuya Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line to Kichijoji Station on the Government Central Line through some suburban places in the west of Tokyo may be considered as hopeful of success, too, for the reason that it is to run through densely populated places, and it has at its end the famous Inokashira Park and will make a short cut to the Government Yamate Circular and Central Lines. The Seibu Railway (for 26.6 kilometres) is run to between Shinjuku Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line and Tachikawa Station on the Government Central Line through some places in the western suburbs of Tokyo, situated between the Government Central Line and the Keio Electric Railway, its parallel lines. When this line is opened, a large number of people will come to reside along the route, seeing that the Government Shinjuku Station has as many as 90,000 passengers daily leaving it,—the beggest daily number of passengers at any nationalized railway station, and also that there is a very conspicuous tendency of the suburban population expanding particularly in this western direction of Tokyo. Another important railway to be yet opened is the Tokyo Seihoku Electric Railway (for 46.7 kilometres), which is projected between Ikebukuro Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line in the north-west of Tokyo and the north-western part of its suburbs, running parallel between the Tojo Line of the Tobu Railway and the Musashino Railway. It is important also because of an undergound railway line being projected, as abovementioned, from Ikebukuro station. The Tokyo-Omiya Electric Railway (for 25.5 kilometres) planned between Sugamo Station on the Government Yamate Circular Line in the north of Tokyo and Omiya-machi in Saitama Prefecture (with the population of 27,000) through Itabashi-machi, may be said to be an enterprise aiming at the development of Tokyo suburban electric railways in the northern direction of the Metropolis

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which is not practically so marked as in other directions. The Tsukuba Rapid Transit Electric Railway was long projected to start at Uyeno Park and to end at Tsukuba Mountain in Ibaraki Prefecture, through the northern part of the Metropolis. Recently, the project has been merged in the Keisei Electric Railway, which plans building a line connecting with the Tokyo Uuderground Railway at Uyeno Park, the Governmant Line at Nippori and the Tobu Railway at Senju and joining the existing line of the Keisei at Nagagane. When this plan is completely carried out, the Keisei Electric Railway may be expected to become more important in prospects, with its long cherised desire to find its way into Tokyo realized at last.

There are two or three other lines projected and chartered. But their explanation is left out.

(c) The sesond and third Tokyo suburban circular lines.—At present the Government Yamate Circular Line is the only railway connecting crosswise the streets of Tokyo lying along it. Cars are run every four minutes on the line, facilitating most conveniently the visit of the residents along it and those along the suburban electrlc railway connected with it to the heart of Tokyo. The population in the suburbs of Tokyo is expanding more and more outside of it following the extension of the suburban electric railways radiating from Tokyo. There are two electric railways proposed in view of this fact, namely, the Yamate Rapid Transit Electric Railway (the second Tokyo suburban circular railway) and the Greater Tokyo Railway (the third Tokyo suburban circular railway).

The Yamate Rapid Transit Electric Railway (for 50.6 kilometres) is projected to start at Oi-machi Station on the Government Keihin Line and to form a junction with the Government Central Line at Nakano Station after connecting towns and villages on the existing electric railways, which it traverses, whence to take a norteward route and reach Tabata Station on the Government North-Eastern Line through Itabashi-machi in the northern suburb of Tokyo, after which to run eastward as far as Susaki, where it is to join the Municipal underground railway line, passing through Senju-machi and the eastern industrial section of the city. It is much worthy of consideration as to the results of working this proposed railway, and although the matter does not allow a conclusion to be reached hastily, yet it may not be a mistake to think that the enterprise will meet success, taking into consideration the fact that there are many big works, large schools, busy streets, places of interest, grounds and a population of 1,800,000 along the projected line, and that the line and the old railways will mutually serve to feed each other.

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The Greatar Tokyo Railway (for 62.2 kilometres), the third circular railway, is proposed between Tsurumi Station on the Government Keihin Line and Kanamachi Station on the Government Joban Line north of Tokyo, running south-west towards the suburbs of Tokyo, connecting at first Ogikubo Station on the Government Central Line and then Kawaguchi-machi Station on the Government North-Eastern Line through the north-western suburb of Tokyo, before reaching the Government Kana-machi Station. The chief object of this projected railway, unlike the Yamate Rapid Transit Railway, canuot be conjectured as carrying simply passengers, and if nothing but use of it by the suburban residents is taken into consideration, this railway would not come off so well as the latter, but the principal aim of its projectors must be to operate it as a transforter of goods through its connection with the four Government trunks, viz: Keihin, Central, North-Eastern and Joban Lines, while it will serve as a connecting link of the suburban districts horizontally, on the completion of Greater Tokyo. It is quite beyond prediction whether this railway will bring success. At least I may say that the citizens of Tokyo will enjoy much benefit from the completion of these second and third circular railways in the suburbs of their city.

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JAPAN'S PEPPERMINT INDUSTRY

By T. AMANO

NOW that the cry of the encouragement of domestic industries is so loudly echoed throughout Japan, it is noteworthy that her peppermint products are very popular in the World's markets, particularly in view of the fact that the raw material produced in Japan is far superior in quality to that produced in other countries; and thus the future of the industry is considered as very promising.

The annual output of peppermint products in Japan now reaches over 1,500,000 *kin* (1 *kin* is equivalent to 1.33 lbs.), in sharp contrast with about 500,000 *kin* on the average until a decade ago. It is generally said that the average amount of peppermint consumed by a nation is the criterion of its national culture; and the demand for the peppermint products has markedly increased throughout the World. Thus peppermint industry ought to be regarded as one of great importance for Japan today. Her menthol crystal is considered to be the best in the world, and it is no exaggeration to say that Japan almost monopolizes the international market, because of Japanese peppermint containing much more menthol than the foreign raw product.

How the Plants are Cultivated

While it is generally accepted that the peppermint plant may safely be cultivated in any part of the world, fertile and sunny districts which have least possible rainfall at the harvesting time are most suitable for peppermint cultivation. As to the soil, one with a rich sandy element is preferable. If the plants are cultivated in a shaded, clay-like soil the draining facilities of which are inadequate, the cultivators will get but little quantity of menthol oil from them, though their stems and leaves develop in a normal way. Care, therefore, should be taken for the choice of soil prior to beginning to cultivate. The planting of young shoots is generally carried out in spring or autumn through the process of dividing their roots. Young plants once thrust in the ground, are left to grow intact for three years.

During these three years their stems and leaves grow, and it is in the fourth year that they are transplanted. In some districts the young shoots are transplanted at the end of each year. This depends wholly on the condition of the soil. Peppermint grass is found in a vast region involving the southern tropical zone and part of the frigid zone

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including Saghalien, and the natural result is that the condition of growing is not the same, as it varyies according to the geographical position of the district in which it is cultivated. The time of harvesting also necessarily varies.

In the peppermint producing centre in Southern Japan, including Hiroshima and Okayama Prefectures, the first harvesting or *ichiban-gari* takes place from the beginning of June, the second from early August and the third and final harvesting from the early part of November.

As for Central Japan, the harvesting time comes twice a year: in early June and in the middle part of October, in such Prefectures, as Niigata and Yamagata Going further north, the number of harvests gets less frequent. For instance, in Hokkaido harvesting takes places only once a year.

Hokkaido, the Largest Producer

At present Hokkaido leads in the production of peppermint throughout Japan. When peppermint oil was first exported in 1883, Yamagata Prefecture was the producing centre, but the centre shifted to Hiroshima and Okayama Prefectures later, and by the time Hokkaido became the principal producing district, Yamagata Prefecture had become quite inactive in peppermint production.

The leading peppermint producing districts, in accordance with their order, based upon the estimated production for the year 1930, are given as below:—

Order	District	Production (Unit: 1,000 lbs.)
1	Hokkaido	1,110
2	Okayama	250
3	Hiroshima	100
4	Kagawa	30
5	Chosen	25
6	Kyushu	10
	Total	1,515

Lately peppermint has come to be grown in Chosen under very favourable conditions. The harvest quantity and the number of crops and oil-containing percentages depend on the districts in which the peppermint is grown. This was referred to previously in connection with the cultivation of the plant and it was evidenced that the warmer the climate the more favourable is the growth. Naturally, Chosen proves to be more favourable than Hokkaido for the production of the plant.

The qualities of oil obtained from peppermint also depend upon the districts. The varieties produced in Hiroshima and Okayama Prefectures are known to contain a greater percentage of free menthol, but less menthone than those planted in Hokkaido, whereas the percentage of menthol esters does not greatly vary.

In other words, it may be said that Hiroshima as well as Okayama pro-

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duces menthol oil of the best quality. Chosen is considered as a very hopeful field for peppermint cultivation, since that transplanted from Hiroshima and Okayama Prefectures has taken kindly to the Chosenese soil and has yielded good oil containing about 78 per cent free menthol, giving experts much hope.

Care in Harvesting

The uttermost care is taken at the harvesting time, as the method employed is importantly related to the quality of the products to be made from the leaves. Bright days are chosen; and no sooner does the morning dew disappear than the harvesting starts. It is an important condition to arrange the harvesting neither too early nor too late. The most suitable time for harvesting is when the flowers are still tight buds. The crop harvested is immediately bound with strings and is hung up to dry.

There is another method of drying; not infrequently the grass is spread in open field under the sun. This process enables the grass to be dried sooner and requires less trouble, but the volatile element is apt to escape in an astounding quantity, and, moreover, the grass becomes wet in rainy whether. This open field drying method, therefore, is adopted only by a small number of cultivators. When the crop is perfectly dried, it is made into a big bundles and stored for peppermint manufacture. In order to procure peppermint oil, steam is first passed to the dried peppermint grass, after which it is steam-distilled, thus yielding the oil. Among the principal ingredients contained in the peppermint oil are menthol, menthone, menthyl esters spicy properties. Mint oil produced in this country contains menthol to a relatively greater extent than what is produced in Europe and America This is one of the district characteristics of Japanese peppermint oil, which fact accoucts for Japan's monopoly of the World's menthol supplies.

The truth is that Japanese peppermint oil contains menthol in such abundance that it can be separated by a cooling process on a commercial scale—something one can hardly expect from European or American mint oil. The Japanese oil from which menthol has been separated by cooling is termed dementholized oil, and its somewhat disagreeable odour and bitter taste can easily be removed by a simple chemical operation. The dementholized oil thus refined is extensively consumed for confectionery, beverages, etc., either with or without aromatizers.

The crude oil one obtains from the dried peppermint is placed in several metal boxes, 60×90×15 mm., which are in the cooling receptacles. These boxes are then covered with a freezing mixture of salt and ice for many an

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hour, after which a cock is opened so as to allow dementholized oil to come out. This process permits most of the menthol in the oil to separate itself. To the menthol thus obtained is added a solvent of a sort, and after being heated it is dissolved and cooled in a specially contracted device, in which the menthol is allowed to be re-crystallized.

Japan Menthol Exporters' Association

To trace the history of the export of Japanese peppermint products, it dates as far back as a hundred years. The Japan Menthol Exporters' Association was established in Kobe in 1929, as a result of the increasing volume in the foreign trade of menthol and for further development, particularly of Japan's peppermint products. The purpose and activities of the Association are set out as below:

(1) The Association schemes and takes appropriate means for developing the export abroad of menthol crystals and peppermint oil.

(2) The Association constantly watches the market conditions and the amount of turnover of the peppermint products in foreign countries in order to keep the exporters of the Japanese products well posted on the least fluctuation in prices.

(3) The Association furnishes the most accurate and reliable market reports to foreign countries.

(4) The Association assumes the rôle of an arbitrator in case complaints come from abroad as regards the quality, weight and packing.

(5) The Association mediates between the contending parties if a controversy arises in regard to transaction and delivery.

(6) The Association supplies all information relative to menthol exportation.

Menthol Cone

The menthol cone is one of the most useful products derived from peppermint. It is made by heating peppermint crystals, kneading them and the moulding them usually into the shape of a cone. It is then set into a wooden box of corresponding shape with a cap. At the time of using it, one removes the cap and pushes the bottom to rub it into the skin. It gives such a refreshing sensation that local treatment with a menthol cone would relieve one of headache or fatigue. Drowsiness can also be removed. It gives one vitality and makes one feel fit again. The stimulation is highly agreeable. This is one of the daily necessities in such hot regions as India, the South Sea Islands and the southern parts of China. Indeed, this form of menthol is simply indispensable in some districts, where it is in universal use.

It is even said that some natives of

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the South Seas are convinced that a menthol cone is good for stomach and intestines and they will lick it whenever they find something wrong with those part of their bodies. Most of the menthol cones now widely used in those countries are imported from Japan. The Japanese product enjoys an established reputation of being the best on account of its quality as well as durability. Japanese menthol cones are today exported not merely to British India, China and the South Sea Islands, but also to European countries, espacially to the Balkans, Egypt and also to Africa. Export to South America has also made a start with bright prospects.

World Looks to Japan

There is little wonder the World looks to Japan for its supply of natural menthol. It is up to Japan to see that menthol is furnished at as low a figure as is scientifically possible. This can be accomplished by finding methods whereby the by-products are utilized to the utmost limit. The European and American synthetic menthol which is getting popular in the World's market is a compound of various isomers, whereas what is being extracted from the raw material in Japan is only one kind of "L-Menthol," according to Dr. Kashichi Ono.

Its melting point, therefore, is very low and pharmacologically does not show much difference, even if somewhat inferior in respect of flavour and taste as c mpared with the natural product. For that reason, it is used as the best possible substitute for natural peppermint and is destined to be brought to perfection with the advancement of the synthetic industry.

That day, however, spells the decline of Japan's peppermint industry, because it is not difficult to foretell that the natural peppermint would lose all its appeal to buyers notwithstanding its qualities that are not yet found in the artificial substitute, according to Dr. Ono.

He has, therefore, been engaged during the last fifteen years in the research of menthol as one of the subjects of the essential oils produced in this country. Dr. Ono has been brought to the conviction that the only means possible for Japan to compete with the synthetic menthol products in the European and American markets is the process based upon the natural peppermint oil. He expects to apply the process, when perfected in the laborfatory, to the practical industry. The characteristics of the synthetic menthol he obtained in his experiments are as follows:—

Melting point: 35.5—36 degrees C.

Specific optical rotation: 43.6 degrees.

The flavour, taste and chemical reactions are very much like the natural peppermint. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility for him to attain a far better product and he is now striving to improve its quality. Dr. Ono calls the special attention of those engaged in the peppermint industry to the fact that there can be found no better material for the synthetic menthol industry in Japan than peppermint oil.

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THE INTERNATIONAL BALANCE ACCOUNT

By T. YAMADA

THE balance of Japan's foreign trade for the first year of the lifting of the gold embargo was generally expected to be against us as a result of the decrease in export trade and an increase in import trade, consequent on a rise in the yen. At the same time an opinion was that while some shrinkage might be unavoidable in the total amount of foreing trade, any extremely unfavourable balance could not ensue for, on the other hand, commodities would decline so much as to stimulate exports, and the import trade would be restricted by econmization in general consumption and the encouragement of domestic production, alleviating the unfavourable trade situation. These two observations were made on the basis of the condition that the econmic situation here and abroad was unchanged after the lifting of the gold embargo. In fact, however, economics here and abroad were unfortunately uncommonly depressed, making the hope of an increase in the export trade only visionarg. A the same time, it is reassuring that the import trade extremely shrank, releasing us of the anxiety of an increase in the unfavourable balance of foreign trade, due to a falling off in the general buying capacity, caused by the depression in trade, and to the heavy depreciation of raw materials.

The foreign trade of Japan for the period ending December 10th 1930 amounted to 1,393,000,000 yen in exports and to 1,478,000,000 yen in imports, both of which decreased greatly from the same interval in 1929, so much as to diminish the total of both by 1,276,000,000 yen, or 30.7 per cent. Yet, for the period, the imports exceeded the exports to the extent of 85,000,000, yen as against 58,000,000 yen for the same interval, 1929, showing an increase of 48.2 per cent. But it may not be proper to compare these two years; for in 1929 the exporters made ready for shipment earlier than usual and the importers held off, in expectation of the lifting of the gold embargo. To show the exports and imports for the period of 1930 in comparison with those for the corresponding interval, 1929, the figures may be given in millions of yen as follows:—

		Comp. with 1929.	
	1930.	Amount.	Proportion.
Exports	1,393	651 Dec.	31.8% Dec.
Imports	1,478	624 „	29.6% „
Total	2,871	1,276 „	30.7% „
Excess of im. over ex. ...	85	26 Inc.	48.2% Inc.

Regarding so much decrease in the

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export trade in 1930 as shown above, we may mention as one of the causes the lifting of the gold embargo and the rise in the yen as a matter of course. Other causes were (1) that the world's severe trade depression shrank the buying-capacity of each country, (2) that the powers adopted a protective tariff policy, preventing the importation of foreign goods and (3) that the unusually heavy decline in the price of silver depressed the buying-capacity of China and India, silver standard countries. Moreover, the different roots of evils dormant in the Japanese industries made the latter inelastic against these adverse foreign circumstances, which dealt a blow at Japan's foreign trade more than that of any other power.

The following table shows the exports and imports of Japan by months during 1930 in millions of yen:—

Month.	1930.	1929.	Change. Amount.	Proportion.
January	146.0	181.6	35.6 dec	19.6%
February	118.9	147.3	28.4 „	19.3%
March	135.9	167.4	31.5 „	18.9%
April	117.2	176.5	59.2 „	33.6%
May	115.1	183.9	68.8 „	37.4%
June	98.9	159.9	60.9 „	38.1%
July	117.2	188.2	70.9 „	37.7%
August	127.6	217.7	90.0 „	41.4%
September	130.6	190.7	60.0 „	31.5%
October	128.7	204.0	75.3 „	30.6%
November	117.4	171.6	54.2 „	31.6%
Total	1,353.8	1,989.3	635.4 „	31.9%

Thus, each month in 1930 the exports decreased from that in 1929, the decrease ranging between 18-41 per cent.

To see what goods so decreased, the official returns up to the end of November show that of the twenty-two staple exports, only rice and machinery increased in value, the former by 3,770,000 yen and the latter by 470,000 yen. All other goods lost in value. Especially, raw silk fell off 344,000,000 yen as the American demand decreased; and cotton fabrics 130,000,000 yen, owing to the decline in the price of silver and the raising of the import duty on cotton fabrics in India. Silk fabrics, wheat flour and cotton yarns each fell off 10,000,000 yen to 44,000,000 yen. These decreases make in tolal over 540,000,000 yen, out of the total loss of 600,000,000 yen of the total export trade as may be seen from the following details:—

(In Millions of Yen)

Goods.	1930.	1929.	Change.
Raw silk	381.4	725.7	344.3 dec.

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Cotton fabrics ...	251.6	382.4	130.8	„
Silk and rayon fabrics	92.4	136.7	44.2	„
Wheat flour	13.5	25.8	12.3	„
Cotton yarns.....	14.2	24.5	10.3	„

As to the imports, they decreased 29.6 per cent in 1930 down to December 10th from the same interval, 1929, due to the world's downward trend of commodity prices and to the great shrinkage of the buying-capacity in Japan. The figures may be given by months as follows :—

(In Millions of Yen)

Month.	1930.	1929.	Change. Amount.	Proportion.
January.....	182.7	240.8	58.0 dec.	24.1%
February	160.2	237.4	77.1 „	32.5%
March	182.8	211.1	28.3 „	13.4%
April	148.4	213.3	64.8 „	30.4%
May	155.5	219.9	64.8 „	29.3%
June	126.2	176.6	50.4 „	28.5%
July	104.6	167.2	62.6 „	37.4%
August	96.0	157.3	61.3 „	39.0%
September	92.3	135.2	42.3 „	31.7%
October	102.5	151.2	48.7 „	32.2%
November.....	95.5	146.8	51.3 „	34.9%
Total	1,447.1	2,057.2	610.0 „	29.6%

As in the export trade, the imports fell off markedly each month of 1930 from that of 1929. Of the staple imports, nothing increased in value. The following table shows the staple goods decreasing most largely in value during the period in 1930 as compared with that in 1929 :—

(In Millions of Yen)

Goods.	1930.	1929.	Change.
Raw cotton.....	430.4	553.7	192.3 dec.
Iron and steel	89.6	147.9	58.3 „
Machinery.....	79.0	112.3	33.3 „
Lumber	50.6	84.5	33.9 „
Wool	65.9	94.0	28.0 „
Wheat.....	38.3	66.1	27.8 „
Pease and beans	46.1	70.3	24.1 „
Crude india rubber ...	16.2	31.9	15.6 „
Sulphate of ammonia.	29.4	44.9	15.4 „
Automobiles and parts thereof.....	19.4	31.8	12.8 „
Hemp, flax, etc.	13.2	23.9	10.7 „

The imports decreased in a wider range than the exports as may be noted from the above table.

In quantity rice, phosphorites, oil cake, wool, iron ore, bran, wollen yarn and aluminium increased, and wool gianed 0.6 per cent, while it lost 31 per cent. in value. This fact of an increase in quantity of these raw materials must be a proof how hard it was to diminish their importation, however depressed trade may be. Anyhow, a general decrease in the staple imports had the effect of preventing in a measure the

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increased unfavourable balance of foreign trade of the year over 1929, and it was fortunate, when it is considered from the viewpoint of the international balance account.

Then to take up the main subject, the yearly receipts of Japan from foreign countries other than on account of foreign trade ranged between 170,000,000 yen and300,000,000 or 400,000,000 yen since 1923, except 1927, when the amount was much smaller, being 61,0000,000 yen. It is unknown as yet how much was received for the fiscal year 1929-1930 in the absence of official returns available, but the Yokohama Specie Bank gives it as 130,000,000 yen, and the Finance Department estimates it at 170,000,000 yen.

In 1930, the shipping world was so inactive that the freight receipts seem to have been only about one-half of the estimated amount of 128,000,000 yen for 1929. There was but little net income on insurance premiums, and even the emmigrants' remittances perhaps decreased heavily, owing to the world's trade depression. Plans taken for attracting foreign tourists were nearly of no effect, and the foreigners' spending of money in this country does not seem to have been much larger than usual, due to the trade dullness. Even granting that the Japanese Government's payment of the ordinary expenditure to foreign countries during 1930 lost about 15 per cent in total, the receipts perhaps decreased in greater percentage. As to extraordinary receipts, they were little during the year; for although the Japan Electric Power Co.'s foreign loan contract was signed for 15,000,000 yen, yet the proceeds do not peach Japan till 1931. Returns on investments abroad probably decreased largely, owing to the world's trade depression. On the other hand, 60,000,000 yen of Japanese capital found its way into foreign land as extraordinary payments; and moreover, at the lifting of the gold embargo, 308,000,000 yen of specie flowed out. When an amount of money from China, the proceeds of sale of specie held abroad by the National Treasury, etc. are subtracted from the total outflow, the net amount paid is calculated to reach 260,000,000 yen, of which 100,000,000 yen was sent by banks, firms and individuals, 100,000,000 yen for balancing the general international account and 60,000,000 yen as investments abroad. In sending this amount of specie, the most part was sent through the foreign banks, and as the insurance and freight rates pair naturally fell into the hands of foreign shipping and insurance companies, the net receipts of Japan other than on account of foreign trade for 1930 amounted probably not to more than 50,000,000 or 60,000,000 yen. If so, this amount being deducted from the estimated foreign trade balance of 150,000,000 yen against Japan and terri-

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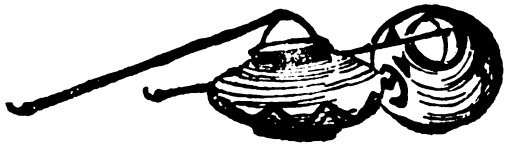
tories for the year, 100,000,000 yen is left on our debit side. The import prices being, however, C. I. F. values, the freight and insurance rates and other charges to the extent of about 6 per cent of them may be deducted from them. In this consideration, as the imports in these firms reached 86,000,000 yen in 1930 down to December 10th, the exports and imports of goods may be calculated to be nearly balanced for the year, and the receipts other than on account of foreign trade may be regarded as net income. This amount is less than usual, yet there is no need of pessimism.

What course will be taken then by this year's international account? There are no indications of any recovery in the buying-capacity abroad this year, when no exports, except those, which increased in quantity in 1930, cannot be almost hoped to increase in quantity. Raw silk trade is increasing somewhat, but so long as American trade remains not recovered in a marked way; the exports may decrease in value in proportion to a decline in the average prices, while in quantity they might show an increase. This may be said of other goods. In the middle of December, 1930 the price of silver broke down the 15d line, deing unequally low in the past, and so long as this tendency is kept up, a decrease in the exports of cotton yarns and cotton fabrics will be but natural. In the import trade, it will decrease in value, seeing that raw cotton and all other raw materials show a fall of 40 or 50 per cent in price. For this year both export and import trade will decrease, but the lattler will diminish more than the former, making the foreign trade balance better than in 1930. As to the receipts and payments other than on account of foreign trade, the ordinary account may not be so changed from 1930, but the extraordinary receipts will increase, although not naturally, as the foreign loan proceeds of certain electric power companies will reach 140,000,000 or 15,000,000 yen, which will make the international balance of account for 1931 better than that for 1930.



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BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE "NÔ".

By ZEN YAMAMOTO.

(4) The Fourth "Nô".

(25) The 'Kogô' is a drama based on the story of the Court Lady Kogô, who was the daughter of Shigenori, Sakuramachi-Chûnagon, and a good-natured and very beautiful girl; she was also a good player on a 'koto,' which resembles a cithern, being a long musical instrument with thirteen strings of silk, mounted on ivory bridges. She was a Court Lady of the Emperor Takakura (1169-1180), and she stood higher in the Emperor's favour than the Empress Tokuko, who was a daughter of Taira-no-Kiyomori. The Emperor's special fancy for Kogô having come under Kiyomori's notice, he felt very much annoyed and declared openly that he would kill Kogô; thereupon Kogô was terror-stricken and barely escaped from the Palace with her life to Saga-No in Yamashiro Province. Sometime afterwards, on August 15th, while the Emperor was gazing at the bright moon, he felt an irresistible yearning to see Kogô again, and asked Minamoto-no-Nakakuni, Danjô-Taihitsu, to go in search of her abode and convery the Imperial message to her; but Kogô's abode was quite unknown, the only clue to her address being that she was living in a house with a half folding door at Saga-No. Nakakuni was a good fluteplayer and had often played in concert with Kogô's koto in the presence of the Emperor; and so he could easily recognize Kogô's particular touch in playing on a koto. He rode on the Emperor's white herse around Saga-No in the southern part of Kyoto and at last heard the sounds of a koto at Kamé-Yama—the music being the plaintive strains called the 'So-Fu-Ren' which means the 'Joy of Yearning after One's Husband.' Nakakuni called at the house and met Kogô there unexpectedly; he thereupon handed over the Imperial message and obtained an answer from her, upon which he felt much pleased to have accomplished the Emperor's command, and cracking his whip, set out for the Palace immediately although it was in the dead of night. The Emperor was very much gratified with her letter, and his love for her increased. History records that Kogô was taken to the Palace again on the night following the departure of Minamoto-no-Nakakuni from Kamé-Yama, but when Taira-no-Kiyomori learned that Kogô was in the Palace again, she was taken to the Seikan-Ji Temple, Uta-no-Nakayama, at the eastern end of Kyoto, accompanied by Minamoto-no-

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Suyesada by Taira-no-Kiyomori's instructions, and was forced there to take the vows of a nun—at that time she was a very beautiful woman of twenty-three years of age. Some years afterwards, she went to live at Ôhara to enjoy the remainder of her life. On January 14, 1181, the Emperor Takakura died—his age then being twenty-one years. He was buried in the grounds of the Seikan-Ji Temple, Uta-no-Nakayama, in accordance with his last wish, as his heart still yearned towards Kogô. This was written by Zen-Chiku. (August, Exterior No. 4.)

(26) The 'Mii-Dera' is a drama concerning a woman who lived at Kiyomi-ga-Seki in Suruga Province, who lost her reason because her child named 'Sen-Mitsu' was enticed away by a slave-dealer. She paid a visit to the Kiyomizu Temple in Kyoto in search of the missing child and offered a fervent prayer to Avalokitêsvara, the Goddess of Mercy, to be permitted to meet her child again. Thereafter, she had a wonderful dream while she fell asleep in the Temple, which dream was interpreted by a man at the gate of the Temple, as follows:— The meaning of the vision is: "If you would like to see your lost child again, you should go to the Mii-Dera Temple in Omi Province". Late at night on August 15th, she arrived at the Temple of Mii-Dera (also called Onjô-Ji, first founded in 686 in memory of the Emperor Kôbun), half maddened by her thoughts, and met there many monks and young Buddhist disciples who had organized a party in order to enjoy the moonlight and make merry dancing in the grounds of the Temple. Just at the time when she entered the grounds, a man of the Temple was striking a big bell to inform people that the hour was 4 o'clock a.m., and she attempted to strike it herself in the excess of her mirth, but the monk refused her permission with a supercilious air. Thereupon she implored him to accede to her entreaty to allow her to strike the bell for her lost child, and explained to him that "the bell was presented by the Empress of the Dragon Palace to Tawara-Tôta-Hidesato in return for his meritorious achivement in killing a centipede on Mt. Mikami with his arrows, and that Hidesato had brought it to the Mii-Dera Temple from the Dragon Palace"; she then beautifully performed the dance called the 'Act of the Temple-Bell.' While one of the disciples was looking at her dancing, he was reminded of his mother, and asked her native place. Upon ascertaining that this was Kiyomi-ga-Seki in Suruga Provice, the same as his, he cried out 'She is my mother.' Thereupon the woman was overjoyed to meet her lost child again, and expressed her sense

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of gratitude to the Goddess of Mercy who had brought them together again through the aid of the bell of the Temple of Mii-Dera. Afterwards, they went back to their home, and rose to wealth and honor during their lifetime. This was written by Séa. (August, Interior No. 3.)

(27) The 'Semimaru' is a tragic drama about the Prince Semimaru, who was the fourth son of the Emperor Daigo (898-930). He was born blind, and was brought up personally in the Palace and trained up to be a good player on a 'biwa,' which is the Japanese lute—the esoteric pieces of music for a biwa composed by him were the 'Ryu-Sen' (the 'Running Spring'), and the 'Taku-Boku' (the 'Picking a Tree'). When he had attained maturity, he was brought to Mt. Osaka in Omi Province accompanied by Fujiwara-Kiyotsura, a vassal of the Emperor, and was there disguised as a poor biwa player to escape notice. To accomplish this his head was shaven clean, his rich clothing was taken off and a straw coat substituted and he was given a sedge-hat, after which he was mercilessly left alone in a straw-thatched cottage on the mountain. This was done by the thoughtful Emperor to give comfort and blessing to his blind son's coming generation. Prince Semimaru understood that the world was but transient and lived there playing a biwa to himself every day to comfort his grieving mind. His elder sister, called the 'Princess Sakagami,' was continually feeling uneasy about her hair which stood erect and she at last became mad. One bright night, she escaped from the Imperial Palace to Mt. Osaka and strolled about in the beautiful light of the moon. She suddenly heard the melodious and sweet sounds of a biwa in a cottage, and she was so enraptured with the lovely, familiar sounds of a biwa that she stood outside the door to listen. Her blind brother had an instinctive feeling that someone was standing outside listening to his playing, and he called out:—"There is someone at the door. Is it 'Hakuga-no-Sanmi,' who formerly called on me so often?" 'Hakuga-no-Sanmi' was the popular name for Minamoto-Hiromasa, the grandson of the Emperor Daigo. Hiromasa was a good player on a biwa and had listened to Semimaru's playing at his door every night for three years in order to study his esoteric compositions of the 'Ryu-Sen' and the 'Taku-Boku.' The Princess Sakagami having recognized her brother Semimaru by his voice, introduced herself and they embraced each other, and he told her of his circumstances in accents broken by sobs. Their parting was piteous indeed. He made her promise to call on him often, and it was with a sense of

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deep sorrow that she bade farewell. He stood in tears at the door until her voice came to his ears only faintly from the distance. History gives no positive evidence to prove that Semimaru and Sakagami were the Prince and Princess of the Emperor Daigo. This was written by Séa. (August, Interior No. 18.)

(28) The 'Shichiki-Ochi' is a historical drama, of which the principal character is Minamoto-Yoritomo, Hyoye-Yoritomo, Hyoye-no-Suké, who was the third son of Yoshitomo. On August 22, 1180, he took up arms against Ôba-Kagechika; he was at the head of the cavalry, more than two hundred strong, composed of the brave soldiers of Izu and Sagami Provinces, and he encamped near the enemy, whose army was more than three thousand strong, with a valley in between, on Mount Ishibashi in Sagami Province. There was no contending against such odds, and he was defeated at last by the foe in the battle which ensued. As he was then in danger of capture he make up his mind to escape to the safe distance of Awa and Kazusa Provinces which would place him beyond the reach of his adversaries. When he was embarking at the headland of Maizuru in Sagami Province, seven faithful warriors followed him to share his fortunes; their names were as follows:—Tashirô-Kanja-Nobutsuna, Shinkai-no-Jirô-Tadauji, Tsuchiya-no-Saburô Muneto, Tosabô-Shôshun, Dohi-no-Jirô-Sanehira, Doni-no-Yataro-Tôhira and Okazaki-no-Shirô-Yoshizané. Yoritomo felt very anxious about the unlucky number of eight persons in the boat in which he was sailing for the improvement of his fortunes, and ordered Dohi-no-Jirô-Sanehira to take one of them out of the boat; as a result of which Dohi-no-Yatarô-Tôhira, the son of Sanehira, disembarked, after long consideration. Thereupon, all seven, Yoritomo and his six followers, sailed away for Awa Province, leaving Tôhira on the beach in great fear of an attack of his enemies. The next day, their boat was dropped astern by Wada-Yoshimori who had followed Yoritomo to join his band and delivered Tôhira from danger on the beach at the headland of Maizuru; Tôhira thereupon met his father unexpectedly on the sea. Thereupon, Sanehira danced with great delight at having once more fallen in with his son. (August, Exterior No. 13.)

(29) The 'Shunyei' is a drama concerning Mashiwo-Shunyei-Maru, who was a young boy and was captured by his enemies while his elder brother Mashiwo-no-Tarô-Tanenawo in Musashi Province was trying to draw out an arrow from his left shoulder during the battle of Uji on May of the year 1180.

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After the Shunyei-Maru was captured, he was sent to governor Takahashi, Gon-no-Kami, at Mishima in Izu Province. Takahashi in keeping watch over the prisoners became fond of Shunyei-Maru and treated him kindly, showing great hospitality to him, for the reason that the boy's face bore a resemblance to his little son who was killed in the battle of Uji. Unfortunately however Takahashi had a mandate in his hand, which was issued by Kamakura Shôgun, to kill Shunyei-Maru and the other prisoners. Tanenawo, the elder brother of Shunyei-Maru, desired to leave the world at the very instant when Shunyei-Maru was killed, and he therefore called on his younger brother in the governor's house at Mishima with a view to joining the prisoners. Thereupon the brothers met each other, but Shunyei-Maru asked his brother to go back to his home and discharge his duties to their mother after his death. Tanenawo, however, would not change his mind; so the brothers desired Tanenawo's servant named Kotarô to take a letter to their mother's house and a bundle of black hair from Shunyei-Maru together with an amulet of Avalokitêsvara which belonged to Tanenawo, as a token of their affection for her. Shortly afterwards, Takahashi received a letter of acquittal, which was brought by an express messenger despatched by the Kamakura Shôgun, the favor in the letter being that seven prisoners including Shunyei-Maru were to be released from prison on a special pardon. Thereupon, Takahashi, the governor, was delighted with himself and drank to celebrate the felicitous occasion with Shunyei-Maru, who entered his house as adopted son, and then Tanenawo danced in ecstasy. After this, the foster father and the two brothers started for Kamakura in the best of spirits. This was written by Séami. (August, Exterior No. 8.)

(30) The 'Tokusa' is a drama concerning a man who was always in grief, yearning after his child named Matsu-Waka, who had been enticed away by a slave-dealer, and who spent all his time day after day mowing the scouring-rush on the sides of Mount Sonohara in Shinano Province. One day, a travelling monk journeyed to Fuseya at Sonohara from Kyoto accompanied by a little boy who had a great desire to meet his father, whom he had not seen for many years. Fuseya was noted for a tree which grew in the surrounding woods, a parasite and resembling in shape the summer cypress; it was commonly called the 'broom'. There they met accidentally the boy's father, who was mowing the scouring-rush on the mouniain, but they remained apparently indiffrent to his presence; he did not take any notice of his little boy, and asked them to stop

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over night at his house in order that he might relate to them the story of his life. The pith of the tale was as follows:—His boy had been missing from his home for a long time, so he used to detain the passers-by in the street in all endeavor to trace out the whereabouts of his lost child. The boy was very fond of singing and dancing, and when he called his friends together in his room to make merry, his father sometimes sang and danced. The thought of perhaps meeting the boy again, one day, filled the man with joy and he sang and danced in the same way as he had done before he lost his child. Thereupon, the boy gave his name 'Matsu-Waka' to his father. They rejoiced at having met again, and were in high glee. This was written by Séa. (August, Interior No. 22.)

(31) The 'Ugetsu' is a drama concerning an ode composed by the priest Saigyô, who was a great poet during the Emperor Gotoba's reign (1184-1198). He was a warrior of the patrician lineage of Fujiwara-Hidesato, and his lay name was Satô-Hyoye-no-Jô-Norikiyo. He became convinced of the uncertainty of life by the sudden death of Sayemon-no-Jô-Noriyasu, one of his family, and became a priest, taking the priestly appellation of 'Saigyô' or 'En-I'; he entered the priesthood at the age of twenty-three years, after which he lived at Saga in Yamashiro Province, and died in the year 1198. One day, he left his hermitage at Saga in Yamashiro Province to make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Sumiyoshi-Myôjin at Sumiyoshi in Settsu Province to propitiate the god regarding his cherished desire. Night fell whilst he was wandering about sumiyoshi, and he called at a thatched cottage nearby to ask for a night's lodging. At that time, an old man was covering the eaves in order that he might enjoy the sound of the drizzling showers in late autumn pattering on the wooden eaves, but his old wife refused to permit him to do this in order that she might enjoy the sight of the harvest-moon from her room. So, they were at discord with each other, each persisting in his or her opinion. The priest asked them what they were quarrelling about, and on learning the reason he pacified them by reciting his beloved ode. Thereupon, the old couple consented willingly to his request for them to permit him to pass a night in the cottage, and they talked together about the aesthetic properties of a "full-moon seen through the rain" until late at night. In the dead of night, the God Sumiyoshi-Myôjin revealed himself to the priest and admired the moral influence of the ode after which the god ascended to Heaven while dancing. This was written by Konparu-Zenchiku. (August, Special No. 5.)

(To be continued)

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REVUES IN JAPAN

By M. ARIKAWA

PRESENT-DAY Japan may be considered as consisting of at least five elements: internationalism, mechanism, eroticism, sports and speed. No wonder, then that the movie and revue, which fully represent these five elements, are so popular with the masses, and the necessary result is that the old fashioned drama is on the wane and inclined to be replaced by these two forms of modern entertainment.

In ancient Japan, there was of course something like the revue, which is still seen in the gay quarters. For instance, the "Miyako Odori" at Gion, Kyoto, more popularly known among foreigners by the name of "Cherry Dance," resembles a revue, in so far as a group or groups of *geisha* dance and sing to the accompaniment of *samisen* music. However, these *geisha* dances have been no more than variations of the traditional individual dances, far from a collective exercise.

How Revue was Indroduced Into Japan

It was a little over a decade ago that an Italian teacher of dancing named Rocci came to Japan to teach the Occidental ballet, but what he taught was very much like a musical comedy. Since the establishment of the Takarazuka Girls Opera House, followed by the Shochiku Operatic Department and the "Kawai Dance," the Occidental stage atmosphere has begun to revolve. Today the topnotch revue theatres are the Takarazuka Opera Theatre at Takarazuka near Osaka and the Shochiku Theatre in Osaka. The popularization of revue at these houses paved the way to the successful presentation of a full revue at the newly-built Tokyo Theatre under the management of Shochiku. It may be safely said that the revue in Japan attained recognition as a full-fledged public entertainment in 1930, since its obscure cradle days.

Abundant Chorus Girls

There are many girls for chorus and dancing to be found in Japan. The Takarazuka Theatre is spacious enough to accommodate an audience of 3,000 people. In the last scene of the "Mon Paris" over 120 chorus and dancing girls made their appearance on the stage. Although it has not such a big stage as the Takarazuka House, the Shochiku Theatre Stage of Osaka is capable of accomodating 100 danseuses. As for the Tokyo Theater, the latest addition to a chain of Shochiku interests, it is capable of accomodating 200 girls at one time on the stage. The initial revue at this last named theatre was performed by some 450 girls!

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Danseuses Too Young

What dissatisfies us is the fact that in Japanese revues the girls are for the most part still too young. In other words, they are just beginning to learn the rudiments of their profession. This is the reason why, once they are given a chance to open their mouths on the stage, they are liabls to damage the performance itself. Every revue theatre, therefore, is in bad need of girls possessing a fairly passable degree of vocal culture. Now no effort is being spared for developing a presentable chorus.

When the Takarazuka Girls Opera House presented the "Dance Olympic" last June, a dance version of leading nations in the world was shown. It was an admixture of classical and ultra-modern dances, including highly artistic Russian ballet. Particularly was the singing by competent Takarazuka vocalists worth mentioning.

One of the stage celebrities, Ennosuké Ichikawa, is a prominent terpsichorean artist. His lively and athletic style of dancing is just the right kind for the revue. Even if what is to be called the acrobatic dance is hardly to be seen in Japan, yet we have ample reason to foretell that it is bound to become popular in this country in the long run, and if Ennosuké goes into the revue, it is believed that he will make himself the founder of Japanese acrobatic dances.

Remarkable Improvements

Nobody can deny that moving pictures have contributed in no small degree to the introduction of various kinds of revues into this country. When both the Takarazuka and Shochiku made their June offering, the producers made a timely adaptation of the Hollywood Revue for the rainy season. The scenes depicting a rainy climate together with orange blossoms shown aroused great delight among the audience.

As the Japanese revue is still "young," it is quite natural that there are no outstanding individual stars. Taking it for granted that Miss Akiko Asuka of Shochiku and Miss Saeko Sumino of Takarazuka are very popular as dancers, they are far from being made a nuclei around whom the star class revue can be built up. As compared with the theatrical realm in which the actors and actresses are bound by strict tradition and family trees, it is true that greater freedom is being enjoyed in the revue circles.

The revue at a theatre usually runs for about a month. At the Takarazuka House they give two shows on Sundays and one on week days, while at the Shochiku four performances on Sundays and three on week days are required of the girls. It means that the Shochiku revue girls change to the next show after performing the same show about 200 times repeatedly. As the

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Shochiku Theatre has more than 300 danseuses it gives rigid and strenuous training in group exercises and rhythmical movements in addition to the lessons in Japanese and Western dancing. The girls are generally under such a trying ordeal that, although they may be able to go the route, their costumes can hardly stand the wear. Danseuses wearing stage smiles in spite of visible fatigue manifested on their powdered and rouged faces, and with thread-bare dresses, not infrequently present a pathetic scene. To make the matter worse, the girls are put through a nerve-racking preparation for the next show in their spare moments between the curtains. Were they not from unfortunate working girls, food for the cannons of commercialism, who would stand it? But, how the young girls do love to go on the stage!

Physique Improved

What will be the raison d'être of a revue without girls of shapely legs? In this respect, a congratulatory phenomenon for the Japanese dancing girls is that their principal limbs are rapidly developing. The bow-legged girls who were commonly seen among old-fashioned Japanese women some ten years ago would not have dreamt of the possibility of acquiring the legs of our present-day revue girls! The modern revue girls are so greatly affected by the cinema-revue eroticism that they seem to be rather fond of exposing their bodies, not to speak of legs simply, as much as possible, provided it is within the law, while they would have died of shame years ago. The exposure of the body, however, is not yet tolerated to such an extent as in Paris.

Once an episode telling how these girls still possessed a school-girlish sense of propriety occurred at the Takarazuka House. When the "Mon Paris" was staged for the first time in Japan, the girls in a certain scene were required to expose the greater part of their bodies below the hips. This caused indignation among not a few of them; they immediately protested that they would not go on the stage unless allowed to wear tights.

But what are the conditions today? Within a short span of three years' time, girls make their appearance on the stage almost nude in the Dance Olympic. The police censor is very strict about such provocative exhibitions. As a result, the show is daily presented under rigorous surveillance of public peace maintenance officers of the local police office. The exposure of the breast is strictly forbidden, though much leniency of exposure is tolerated by the authorities. Be that as it may, anybody who takes a glance at the well-proportioned and healthy physique of Japanese revue girls will never fail to be convinced of the wonderful development physically realized by them.

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Revue Developing

The stage lighting has also been markedly improved. The Japanese seem to have a special talent in this respect. Especially in reproduction of natural colour and phenomena such as the moon, water, stars, wind, sun and night, Japanese technicians campare favourably with the foremost abroad. The Berenger instruments of revolving colour lighting have become in vogue.

The Japanese revue producers, sooner or later, will present genuine shows of their own, unlike imitations. To that end, the first thing to be done is the creation of Japanese revue dances. The traditional dances are fit only for small scale public presentation by amateur girls or actors, if not for chamber entertainment. Such an individualistic dance is apparently inadequate, for even in case of a performance by group, it is no more than an orchestration of "individual entities" devoid of the beauty inherent in the typical group movement. Despite that drawback the revues in Japan well compare with most of the Occidental shows.

As one of the features of the revues, news value was made an attraction. A light but pointed cynicism at inconsistency and incongruous social life through newsy shows is among examples. Although such method is not widely adopted in Japan, the epoch-making aerial conquest of the Graf Zeppelin was blended with the revue at the Shochiku Theatre under the title of "The Age of Newspaperdom." In that revue, actresses who were playing the rôles of newspapermen explained the communication cobwebs spread by the newspapers, the speed and actual procedure of supplying news by a large Osaka paper. The show scored a tremendous success, if it was not repeated at other theatres since then.

In short, the revue in Japan is developing by the extraordinary efforts of all those who are concerned. Chances are, the tempo of the show will yet be made more speedy, and varieties increased in a not remote future. However, one cannot ignore the fact that it is wellnigh impossible to harmonize the audience and performers into one single body, as is seen in the revues abroad.

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KURO AND AKA

By "ARIEL"

USHERED into the guest-room by the only daughter of the house, a lady of mature years, I humbly took the seat offered me. As conversation slowly developed along with a remarkable canine odour, a large red chow dog blustered into the room, trotted up to his mistress upon whom he fawned with emotion and then began to evince an unwelcome interest in me. As the creature seemed safely reticent I did not venture to encourage him further, and he stood contemplating my countenance with apparently more interest than he could excite in me. But, 'let sleeping dogs lie,' as the saying goes; and as there must be some basis of truth in every old aphorism, I decided to act upon it a wise precaution as I learned afterwards.

"That's a very fine chow," I suggested, trying to make conversation.

"Yes," the lady acquiesced eagerly, "but he's nothing to what his 'missus' is.

"His missus?" I exclaimed.

"Yes, female is a magnificent specimen of the breed; she has three fine puppies too."

"Puppies? Really?" said I.

Just then there marched into the room the biggest Irish wolfhound it had ever been my good or bad luck to set eyes on. He was at least five feet long, stood calf-high in his bare feet, and had considerable beam, while his tonnage must have been extraordinary, and he careered around the tea-table like a warship around an island. His mistress received him standing; and, as soon as he could sufficiently slacken speed to accost her, he reared up on his hind legs, took two steps forward and placed one paw on each of her shoulders, propping his huge length against her. On the appearance of the Irish rival, the Chinese chow vanished, though the lady assured me that the two dogs were good friends. The lady, unable to bear the weight of so heavy a prop longer, turned about and the dog descended to the floor. Now he began to circle around the table again, in a sort of uneasy, swaying rhythm; and, at last, slowly deposited himself before the brightly burning grate which sent out a strong heat. The high temperature tickled the dog's back and set him scratching, which created no small commotion. While his long hind legs pawed his flanks, the friction was so severe that the hair began to fly, if nothing else did. He was told to stop being itchy, but the authority was insufficient to convince him; for what, or even who, could stop so pleasant a di-

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version, if the need therefor were really great! He continued to scratch, with evidence of undue strain both fore and aft.

When tea was brought in, the wolfhound collected his length and evinced signs of hunger. Arising with difficulty he again proceeded to cruise about the table, as if patrolling the seas occupied by the guest who formed an occasional port of call, but as there was nothing doing in port, he started off again. Had he collided with the tea-table, the spill would have been awful. Standing beside me when he called, his head was just on a level with the piece of toast I was about to put in my mouth and which he sniffed at too late to obtain. To prevent his devouring the next piece of bread passed to me, I had to do so myself. Then he went to his mistress who meanwhile had been rebuking him in vain. He laid his head softly on the table beside the plate containing her piece of bread, with one eye on her and the other on the bread, invoking from her the remark, "Isn't he lovely?" At this his nose edged near enough to the plate to sniff its contents, but just as he was about to lick it up with his long tongue, she snapped it away and put it in her mouth. He replaced his head by the plate with hin on the table; she took another piece of bread, put it on the plate and dared him to sniff it. Just as he was going to do so, she picked it up, holding it high above his head, whence she dropped between his yawning jaws. There was a drouly snap, and away it went gurgling to perdition. He resumed his placc beside her plate, inviting a repetition of the performance; but she only put her mouth close to his ear, whispering "Good dog!" This induced the dog to move his muzzle slyly towards her face and give her a kiss with the tip of his tongue, whereupon all the guests licked their lips.

At dinner this dog was also in attendance, waiting beside each of the guests in turn, to induce alms from the table, but none shared a plate with him save his mistress. One of the guests was a little lady who continued, apparently, in terror of the wolfhound. When he paused in her vicinity and yawned, she shuddered, upon which his mistress would summon him and croon over him again. It was obvious that none of the guests could really enjoy the meal because of the presence and the manners of this beast. Whether his mistress enjoyed him as much as he enjoyed himself I will not dare to say. Still, we were all somewhat relieved that his mistress could find him a sufficiency of tit-bits to prevent his molestation of the guests more than he did. The best that can be said of him is that he might he might have been worse.

After dinner the lady addressed me in particular:

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"You've not yet seen my dogs, sir". I thought this rather a tame jest.

"Seen your dogs, madam?" I affirmed in an inquisitive and startled tone. "Why, I've seen dogs enough, surely."

"Oh, you've seen only the two heads of families," she explained. "There are many more dogs,—I breed dogs, you know . . ."

"No," I protested, "I didn't know."

"Oh, yes," she went on complacently, "I've long been a breeder of dogs, none better in the county: it's quite a profitable investment. People breed worse things than dogs, you know."

"Yes, possibly," I was forced to admit.

"And, I breed very fine dogs, too. I'm very good at it, you know . . . got the knack of, you see. . . The two you've seen are the best of my stud and have the freedom of the house."

I looked cautiously at the other guests and tried to hide my embarrassment, but they were equally noncommittal. In this art of concealing emotion the English are past masters. The lady summoned us to follow her, as she boldly led the way to what she said was her study, but I supposed the "y" had been added to the word by a slip of the tongue, and she must have meant "stud"; but not a bit of it: it was actually a library into which she ushered us; and, to tell the truth, there were almost as many dogs on the carpet as there were books on the shelves. As we entered the room a powerful whiff of the canine met us. Puppies were running and yelping all over the pile carpet; the place, including the atmosphere, was thick with puppies, fairly alive with them and theirs. Suddenly there was a piercing shriek, as I accidently tred on tne tail or paw or something belonging to a tiny woolly ball that rolled between my feet. Shocked as much as the mite of a puppy, the lady fixed me with her eye and said," Be careful, please. Mind my puppies: they're not old enough to mind themselves."

"Their eyes aren't open yet, I suppose," said I, but it seemed no joke to the lady, while the guests just in amazement, were afraid to move or even say anything. Discretion being the better part of valour and peace at all costs often good policy, I now stood quite still, while around me and all the guests dozens of puppies were careering after one another in play, the very tiny things creeping along like cockroaches. The animals were of all kinds and colours, and breeds as various. The lady, by way of invitation, I presume, sat down on the carpet and let the puppies tumble about her like surf against a rock. Up they came in droves and, breaking against the lady, rolled back into the general stream again. She looked, for all the world,

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like a lighthouse amid waves. As the waves of puppies broke against her and tumbled over one another, they showed their white teeth and made strange utterance, while the atmosphere thickened into threat of storm. The dust was now like that attending a litter of pigs in the ruins of a straw stack. A dustpan and a brush lay suspiciously in the corner, presumably only for the heavier dust.

The lady at last got up, shook her dress and picked two tiny dogs under her arms; and then facing me with them she demanded: "I understand that you are from Japan." This I had to admit: there was no way out of it. I simply nodded assent.

"Well," she continued, "these two dogs are Japanese."

"Japanese dogs?"

"Yes, Japanese, or are so descended. You know all about Japan," she informed me. "Well," she went on, "I always name my puppies before sending them to customers. I've just sold these two darlings for five guineas each, though I think little Japs are worth more, if you ask me. Now, the question is this: what names would two such doggies be given by the Japanese? Real Japanese name I want for them."

I paused and tried to look wise, and then found I had to retreat, for, on account of the fug, a fit of coughing had seized me. It was neither an atmosphere nor an occasion for prolonged discussion, to say nothing of argument; so, after getting through the door, followed by the lady with the two tiny puppies still panting under her arms, I began to think what the dogs would be named in Japan. I kept moving nearer and nearer to the front door, hastening to catch a train. As I got to the door I took my hat, and then the lady informed me that I must name the pups before leaving the house. I began to put on my coat, the two pups still wriggling under the lady's arms, blinking big brown eyes at me from under their long hair. I could with difficulty resist putting on my hat and opening the door, to let in some air. By this time all the guests had followed us out into the hall, and stray pups were leaking after us too. I felt I must hurry with the business of naming the pups.

"Well," said I, "I must hurry to catch my train."

"Oh," she exclaimed, "you can't leave till you've named the puppies."

"Yes," I said, "I know." Then picking up my bag I moved close to the door, to which the lady had now practically placed her back and faced me. "Now, in Japan," I began, "they usually name dogs according to their colour; and the one under your left arm is redder than the other; it has more red spots on it; so that pup would be called *Aka*, which means red and the other one, being darker, would,

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I think, be called *Kuro.*"

"Oh, how lovely!" exclaimed the lady, and the pups yelped too at her surprise. "What delightful names: simply heavenly you know, so poetic too."

As I attempted to open the door she cried "Stop; just a second, please! I can't remember such wonderful names. Please say them and apply them to the right puppies again, while I write them down."

She pulled a pencil out of somewhere, picked a label from the hall-table and wrote *Aka* on it; and then, at my dictation, she wote *Kuro* on a second label, and tied the labels to the dogs indicated by me, while I opened the door and was about to step out when I beheld a woman standing at the door outside just going to ring the bell. I bowed and was about to skip past her and escape to get my train, when my hostess shouted, "Wait, wait! I must introduce you to my friend, Mrs Dams"; and as I fled down the path with "dams" on my tongue, I heard her say in a loud voice, "He's a delightful person: he's just 'baptised' my two pups." I looked around and saw the guest gazing after me as I receded with my bag, she thinking, I suppose, that it contained a more ecclesiastical kit than it honestly did.

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CURRENT JAPANESE THOUGHT

By THE EDITOR

Late Marquis Kinichi Komura

In the death of Marquis Kinichi Komura Japan has lost one of the most brilliant members of her younger diplomatic circle. A son of the famous statesman, Marquis Jutaro Komura, who concluded the historic Portsmouth Treaty of peace with Russia after the war of 1904-5, young Komura inherited something of his fathers's talent and character. On graduating from the Tokyo Imperial University, he entered the Foreign Office; and after serving in various important departments, he went to the Japanese Embassy in London, and then became chief of the Foreign Intelligence Bureau of the Foreign Office, until he was made Vice-minister of Overseas Affairs under the present cabinet. A man of wide culture and fine manners, and a distinguished linguist, Marquis Komura won a wide circle of friends both at home and abroad, being always noted for his charming personality.

Spring

When the plum blossom shows its exquisite face in the month of February the Japanese know that spring has begun. The very idea that spring can begin in the second month of the year seems a thing most cheerful to the Occidental mind; and indeed this is what makes Japan so attractive a field for the English and American tourist. But of course the greatest month for bloom in Japan is April when the cherry blossom is at its best. It is mainly in the more southern sections of the empire that the plum dares to venture out in February, but yet the fair plum blossom can be seen further north also where its chief glory is to be seen in the midst of a snowfall. The face of the magic bloom peering through the snow on a branch is a scene that has always inspired the poets of Japan to their highest achievements. When the great and historic Japanese patriot, Sugawara Michizane, many centuries ago, was exiled to Kyushu by an arbitrary authority less loyal than himself, he wrote one of the most famous poems on the plum blossom to be found in all Japanese literature, to say farewell to his old home:

When I've departed
And of home taken last leave,
My house deserted,
O plum tree by my thatched eave,
Forget not spring's bloom to give.

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Mexico and Japan

The increasing interest of Mexico in Japan and things Japanese is pleasing feature of their relations in recent years. This is emphasized by the recent visit of a delegation of students from the National University of Mexico to Japan for the purpose of promoting an exchange of ideas between the two countries, and to make a special study of Japan's progress and culture. Accompanied by Professor Garcia de Mendoza, of the Department of Philosophy and Letters, the Mexican students desire to explain the progress and aims of their country to the students of Japan, acquainting them with something of Mexican art and ideals, exhibits of which they carry with them. At the same time the visitors expect to promote more friendly relations with Japan, particularly between the students of both countries.

Colonial Budget

An interesting feature of the Imperial Budget this year is the amount to be expended in the promotion of colonial progress. The grand total of the Colonial Budget amounts to 406,685,000 yen, of which 240,000,000 yen is alloted to Korea, being over eight million less than for last year. Formosa is to have 114,964,000 yen; Kwantung 22,171,000 yen; Saghalien 24,544,000 yen; and the South Sea Mandates 4,955,000 yen. This proposed outlay includes further expenditure of some 27,982,000 yen for new projects contemplated by the Colonial authorities. In spite of great difficulties, which are being gradually and effectively overcome, Japan is making marked progress in her Colonial Administration, to the great benefit of the peoples who have come under her care and government.

Shipping Depression

The persistent depression in shipping circles, a world-wide feature at present, is severely affecting Japanese lines, especially the tramp steamers and freight services generally. The tonnage at present laid up is over 130,000 and there is more on the way there. The total steamer tonnage of Japan is now about 3,888,000, representing some 1,034 vessels; and of these there is a space of over a million tons now going empty. It is probable that the Government will be asked to take into consideration the advisability of providing low interest rate funds for tie-up expenses, and the readjustment of uneconomical ships as well as more subsidies for overseas services, as the maintenance of the nation's shipping is very important, even from the point of view of national finance, the amount received from Japanese shipping services to foreign countries last year amounting to over 130,000,000. This amount naturally has a favourable effect on Japan's international debt and her credit relations abroad. The largest and most important of the companies

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running tramp steamers is the Kokusai Kisen Kaisha, of which Mr. Shinjiro Kurokawa is the President, one of the leading shipping men in Japan. The ships of this company ply in all waters, serving all the ports of the world. The Japan Ship-owners' Association has already arranged to to make advances to cover the expense of tying up idle bottoms. Mr. Kurokawa is in hope of better times for freight services, though the change may be slow in coming. The demand for wheat and for lumber is bound to keep a considerable number of bottoms in steady use, to say nothing of the possible recovery of lumber shipments.

World Peace

Some time ago the head of the Nationalist Government in China gave expression to rather pessimistic views with regard to the approach of another world war. In commenting on this the *Kokumin* deprecates the habit of prophesying such a catastrophe, yet warns the world against ignoring the causes now fomenting such conflict, urging the nations not to forget the awful lessons of the European War. One of the changes pregnant with the possibilities of another war is the creation of so many new states in Europe, says the *Kokumin*, the present uncertain relations between Germany and Poland being an example. Another source of danger is the erection of higher tariff walls between the various small nations of Europe. And then there is the psychological factor to be taken into account, where bitter narrow nationalistic sentiment has been created by the new situation of the former belligerents after the European War. The vanquished naturally are incited by a spirit of retaliation against the victors, as may be seen in present relations between France and Germany. Then a fourth cause of future trouble is the rise of so many dictatorships in Europe, of which Italy, Spain, Poland, Yogoslavia, Albania, Hungary and Turkey are examples. This dangerous spirit is so contageous that it becomes one of the greatest menaces to peace. The League of Nations is the only great force operating against the elements now making for another war in Europe; and its most difficult yet necessary task is the disarmament of Europe. If the proposed League of Nations Conference is able to agree on the disarmament of the present expensive military establishments and divert this unproductive expenditure toward the economic rehabilitation of the nations, the outlook for peace will be indeed more hopeful. At all events the present situation in Europe is much more warlike than the situation on the Pacific.

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昭和六年 二月廿二日 印刷
昭和六年 二月廿五日 發行

發行兼編輯人 有川正明 麻布區西町二十三番地

印刷人 杉崎國太郎 東京市芝區田村町十六番地

印刷所 太平洋社印刷所 東京市芝區田村町十六番地

發行所 ジヤパン・マガジーン社 東京市麹町區内幸町一ノ六 電話 銀座（五二一）番 振替 東京 三〇三〇一

（第二十一卷第六號）

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